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Poems,

THE ATHENÆUM

Journal of English and foreign Literature, Science, and the fine Arts.

No. 1443.

LONDON, SATURDAY, JUNE 23, 1855.

PRICE FOURPENCE Stamped Edition, 5d.

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GEORGE VULLIAMY, Secretary.

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Tickets to be obtained at the Gardens only, by orders from Pellows or Members of the Society, price 5a; or on the day of the Exhibition, 7a; 5d. each.

1 July 5, instead of Wednesday, July 4. The holders of such Tickets are requested to correct the date.

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RICHARD AST DEE, Amistrata becroixry.

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N.R.—The Board request a perusal of the last Report, which may be had cratuitously at the Office, 20, Poultry, where Subscriptions and Donations will be thankfully received, and all papers and needed information cheerfully supplied.

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LONDON, SATURDAY, JUNE 23, 1855.

REVIEWS

Russia on the Black Sea and Sea of Azof: being a Narrative of Travels in the Crair being a Narrative of Travels in the Notices of the Naval, Military and Commercial Resources of those Countries. By H. D. Seymour, M.P. Murray.

THE Russian war has effected a great historical restoration. Through its vistas the seas—the steppes—the peninsulas—the valleys—that lie around the Euxine, have been opened to the familiar view of Western Europe. They had previously been explored by many agreeable and sagacious travellers-the most graphic of whom were M. and Madame Hommaire de Hell; but there was no popular call for landscapes, groups, statistics, topography, and civil and military records from every city of the plain, and every tribe of the hill, in all that extensive region. The sword has borne with it an illumining light. The southern tracts of Russia have become radiant under the investigations that have been directed to them. A Circassian chief might hear his military situation discussed wherever three people are met in London; the Tatar has had many a new social polity constructed for him within the sound of Bow bells; even the tomb of Mithridates has been transplanted by "our own Correspondent" from Sinope to Kertch, and consumed as table-

Among the books, light and heavy, which have resulted from this enthusiastic interest, Mr. Seymour's is one of the most admirable. It exhibits a lucid plan of arrangement, a con-centrated power of description, a fullness and solidity of statement which entitle it to rank as a durable authority. Mr. Seymour adds to his personal observations, gathered in the course of three protracted journeys, a body of facts collected from authentic sources, critically examined, and placed in systematic order. His narrative, which abounds in matter of antiquarian, social, historical, and scientific interest, is also sprinkled with anecdotes and sketches which illustrate and render it amusing.

Mr. Seymour starts with a general picture of the Crimea, defines and describes the territory of Little Russia, the Steppes, the country between Perekop and the interior cities of the peninsula, and enters into a recapitulation on the annals and manners of the Tatar race. All this portion of the volume is alive with incident and bright with picturesque varieties. Sebastopol-the Russian army and navy-the ancient remains of the Crimea, and its ethnological history, form the subjects of highly instructive chapters. Mr. Seymour then diverges to the Sea of Azof; and it is fair to say, that we have learnt more of its cities and coasts from this account-derived in great part from a merchant of Taganrog — than from any work we had hitherto examined. The writer's industry, judgment and experience are of no common order; his book, therefore, while it contains strong statements and remarks, and is rich in striking social illustrations, is thoroughly reliable, and cannot fail to excite an interest in all classes of readers. Mr. Seymour has much to say in favour of the Russian people, and is not a bigot in his views of the Russian Government. But the Russian policy he explicitly represents to be that of violence and usurpation, and adds to proofs already accumulated. When, in 1840, the Czar's flotillas broke into Persian riverterritory on the borders of the Caspian, a Turcoman chief resisted their seductions and their aggressions .-

"One night, therefore, troops were disembarked, peror, because it seems impossible, and would his house was surrounded, and he and all his sons be unnatural, to disobey. were carried off and conveyed into the interior of Russia, whence, at the prayer of a very influential personage, his place of exile was changed to Tiflis, where I knew him."

A gallant Georgian Khan, when Persia yielded one of her provinces to Russian intrigue, re-

fused the yoke and fled .-

"After many years he thought he might venture to come and live at Tabreez, the capital of Azer-biján, and near his own country. He had sounded the Russian consulate, and found them apparently favourable, and when he arrived he was invited to dinner by the Russian Consul-General. Everything passed off very agreeably until after dinner, when, as e was sitting on a sofa with the Consul, drinking his coffee, the latter begged to be excused for an instant, and left the room. Immediately upon his quitting, a file of Russians appeared at the door, with their pieces levelled at the Khan, and the Consul, from behind them, told him he was extremely sorry that he was obliged to treat a guest in so uncourteous a manner, but that he must execute his orders, that Suleiman Khan must consider himself a prisoner, and prepare instantly to be conveyed into the interior of Russia."

Among the Tatars Mr. Seymour found many curious and romantic traits of character. As a nation they scarcely survive; but one of their princesses—the celebrated Adel Bey—still lives in her palace in the Crimea. She it was who received Madame de Hell in saloons of exquisite splendour, and showed her the flowers of the race—three girls of wondrous beauty and enchanting grace, clad in such attire as Haidée wore in her island, and such as Hafiz might have written of in odes bedropped with allusions to roses, to myrrh, and to the moon. These angels were sprung from the family of gentle natives of which one chief commenced his career by boiling seventy refractory nobles in cauldrons an invention more successful than Cayenne. But the soil of the Tatar is now possessed by men of different blood. Mr. Seymour describes the Russian workman as a child, who needs to be watched and guided .-

" As an instance of this, Col. Upton said, while he was building the dock-gates at Sevastopol, when the stone-work was prepared for the wood, he found to his astonishment that the parts did not fit, although he was certain that his calculations were right, and the work apparently correctly executed. At length he thought of measuring his gauge, and then found that his Russian workmen, having done their work wrong, cut his gauge to make it appear right, and never thought that there were other parts of the work which must fit in with theirs, and consequently

make their error appear."

Apropos of the fortress, he has a statement which it would be well to verify in details :-

"We have found to our cost how inexhaustible are the stores of Sevastopol, and yet it is said that a still greater amount is laid up in the chain of fortresses that have been erected during the last twenty years on the German, and particularly on the Prussian, frontier."

Haxthausen is quoted to show that Cruys and Byng would have been esteemed in Russia, where the example of Golovin is followed—the Admiral who said it was his rule never to fight unless he had three Russian ships to engage two Swedes. Clearly, the maritime forces of the

Empire are yet in embryo .-

At Sevastopol there was an outcry against the English engineers of the steam-vessels, and the Emperor consented to appoint a Russian on trial, who took a steamer out to sea, and damaged her machinery so much after a few hours, that she was towed into port again by another steamer sent out to fetch her. The Emperor then said that he would continue to employ the English until his own people were really able to undertake their duties."

The morale of the soldier is that of passionless, rigid, inveterate courage. He obeys the Em- to valour are described by Mr. Seymour:-

be unnatural, to disobey .-

"A soldier on duty at the palace of the Emperor at Petersburgh, which was burnt a few years ago, was stationed and had been forgotten in one suite of was stationed and made the last a Greek priest was the last person to rush through the burning rooms, at the imminent risk of his life, to save a crucifix in a chapel, and returning he was hailed by the sentry, who must in a few instants more have been suffocated. 'What do you want?' cried the priest, 'save yourself or you will be lost.'—'I can't leave,' replied the sentry, 'because I am unrelieved, but I called to you to give me your blessing before I die. The priest blessed him, and the soldier died at his The late Emperor himself on one occasion attempted to pass a sentinel in one of the corridors of the palace at Petersburgh, who had orders to let no person pass, but the man resisted him, and when the Emperor tried to disarm him, wrestled with him, and flung him back against the wall."

The first of these stories seems apocryphal. The Emperor Nicholas, however, gave his troops credit for incomparable steadiness. The Jews, though good military artificers, failed in the

"The story is told of the late Emperor, that on one occasion, when he was reviewing some troops, he found out all the Jews by snapping his fingers in each man's face. If they stood immoveable they were Russians, and if they flinched they were invariably

The Russians have discovered a martial stimulus unknown to the Western nations :-

"There is often a buffoon attached to each company, who amuses his comrades by his jests and antics, and is generally a great favourite. On one occasion in the Caucasus, when the troops were driven back by the Circassians, the buffoon was wounded and left behind. A favourite jest of his had been to crow like a cock, and as he lay on the ground he thought of the only way to save himself, and crowed. This had such an effect on his comrades that they rallied, charged again, and saved

Their favourite weapon is the bayonet. It was exalted by Souvárof in his "Discourse under

the trigger."

"Push hard with the bayonet! The ball will lose its way—the bayonet never! The ball is a fool_the bayonet a hero! Stab once: and off with the Turk from the bayonet! Even when he's dead you may get a scratch from his sabre. If the sabre is near your neck, dodge back one step, and push on again. Stab the second! Stab the third! A hero will stab half-a-dozen. * * In the attack there is no time to load again. When you fire, take aim at their guts; and fire about twenty balls."

Explaining "swiftness" to be an element of

military success, Souvárof adds :-

"We fall all at once upon him (the enemy), like snow on the head. His head turns. Attack instantly with whatever arrives,—with what God sends. The cavalry instantly fall to work; hack and slash! Stab and drive! Cut them off! Don't give them a moment's rest!"

The pith of this general order is contained in that terrible tactician's advice on the point of straightforward speech and action. He himself

is straightforward, at least :-

"For the healthy, drink, air, and food; for the sick, air, drink, and food. Brothers, the enemy trembles for you! But there is another enemy, greater than the hospital,—the damned "I don't know.' From the half-confessing, the guessing, lying, deceiful, the palavering, equivocation, squeamishness, and nonsense of 'Don't know,' many disasters originate. Stammering, hackering, and so forth; it's shameful to relate!"

The Soldier's Cross of St. George illustrates the subject of honorary rewards, as compared with pecuniary donations. It is the most honourable military decoration, yet intrinsically the least valuable, being of lead. Other incentives

"The Preobrajenski guards, the few companies which Peter undertook to drill ostensibly for his amusement, and which became the nucleus of the whole Russian army, still wear the original helmets of his time; and it is a glory among the men to have those that are the most pierced by bullets and battered by sabre cuts. The regiment of Tchérnigoff obtained the privilege of alone wearing red-stockings (probably gaiters to the knee, which were then worn all over Europe), because at the battle of Pultava they marched in blood up to their knees."

Mr. Seymour relates the incidents of the excavations at Kertch, which brought to light so many relics of a former epoch. When the tumulus, vulgarly supposed to be Mithridates' tomb, was opened, the crowd overwhelmed the sentinels, and commenced a search on its own account:—

"The people penetrated into the tomb, examined everything, and then were discovered the little plates of gold which covered the pavement. While they were thus occupied in examining and disputing about the smallest spoils, some persons perceived that the tomb resounded as if there was something hollow underneath. Raising the stones of the hollow square in the corner, they discovered a second tomb below much richer than the first, and from this the masses of gold were drawn which for several years afterwards were in circulation at Kertch. There was not a Greek woman there who did not retain some relic of this great discovery, especially in the form of earrings. It was said that no less than 120 lb. weight of gold jewellery were extracted from these tombs, of which the Government obtained about 15 lb., and the rest was dispersed."

On every point of commercial, military and political interest connected with the Crimea, the Sea of Azof, and neighbouring territories, Mr. Seymour supplies information. His summary on the importance of the coasts which the allied squadrons have lately swept of their defenders is as follows:—

"The commerce of the Sea of Azof is rapidly increasing in importance; the countries surrounding it are rich and, as yet, undeveloped; and from the fine system of river communication which reaches the sea at Rostof, it is constantly drawing towards it for shipment a larger portion of the productions of Great Russia. There cannot be a doubt that, when peace is restored, a great impetus will be given to its trade; that it will benefit by the increased movement that will probably take place on all the shores of the Biack Sea; and, should the Russian Government wisely change its military policy, and allow its stout-hearted and enterprising subjects to pursue their natural industrious bent, capital and population will flock to the south, and Rostof and Kertch will rival the Tana and Panticapeum of ancient days."

To talk to Russia of mitigating her restrictive system seems as futile as to argue with her, as Mr. Seymour does, for a reduction of her military force:—

"Her people is the most peaceable in the world, and the troops cannot be wanted to coerce them. Indeed, it is notorious that there are hardly any troops in Great Russia, the most thickly peopled and important part of the Empire. There is only one infantry corps stationed at Moscow out of ten corps which compose the whole army. Where are the rest of her forces stationed? There where she expects to make conquests. They are distributed fan-shape round the European edge of the Russian Empire, from the Baltic to the Black Sea, that they may overawe Germany, and advance to support one another in any move upon Turkey; while 170,000 men are kept in the Caucasus to root out the principles of liberty and extend Asiatic conquests."

We have no space to analyze Mr. Seymour's theory of Russian politics. If he digresses to such matters, the reader will bear with him, for the sake of the knowledge and pleasure to be derived from a perusal of this work.

The Mercantile and Bankrupt Law of France: a Practical Treatise. By Henry Davies, Solicitor, and Émile Laurent, Avoué. Effingham Wilson.

The great operations of the French and English firm of Pelissier, Raglan and Co.,—the Lord Mayor's "eminent and successful labours in cementing the cordial alliance of the two countries,"—and the opening of the French Exhibition,—appear to have moved our authors to the production of this compendium of the Mercantile Law of France. War does not foster commerce; and we should probably have been on equally good terms with our new friends if the Lord Mayor had been abolished with John Doe, the common voucher, and other time-honoured personages of doubtful utility. It is, therefore, fortunate that this book needs no excuse and no special reason for its production.

The authors renounce any attempt to produce a scientific work; they address, not the Temple, but the City, and endeavour to supply, with reference to our nation, that general knowledge which a well-informed merchant should possess of the laws of every community with which he trades.

The "perfection of reason" which we enjoy in this country is based on the Common Law, on which is engrafted the lex mercatoria, which yields to local or special customs, all which are overridden by statutes, which are amended by other statutes, which must be construed with reference to other statutes, none of which statutes can a man of common ability understand, should he be fortunate (or perhaps unfortunate) enough to find them all out in the chaos of our Statutes at Large.

The French law, on the other hand, based on a Code of no remote date, expressed with clearness and precision, may boast, perhaps, of as much simplicity as is compatible with the complicated transactions of modern commerce.

In a small book, of about 125 pages, it has been found possible to give a very good outline of the Mercantile Law of France, which will, we think, be found quite sufficient for the guidance of our mercantile men in their dealings with that country. The law of Sales—of Transport and Carriage—of Payment—of Bills and Notes—of Insurance, Partnership and Bankruptcy—are clearly stated; and there is also a sufficient sketch of the jurisdiction and practice of the different courts before which commercial suits are prosecuted.

The principal defect in the execution of this task is of no great importance: it arises from the fact that the authors do not always give the reader credit for the knowledge which, if he belong to that class to whom alone the book will be useful, he is sure to have, namely, a general acquaintance with the English mercantile law:-for instance, we find a document drawn up upon the non-payment of a bill of exchange, and "which is called a protest," referred to and explained more than once, as if no such document were known in England. A more just view of the position of the reader might, we think, have shortened the book; and the statement or illustration of many points by reference to our own law instead of by passages that sound like the enunciation of the law of England, would have made this treatise more clear to those to whom it is addressed, as well as more concise.

Another growl and we have done. Our worst enemies can hardly accuse us of being an inhospitable nation. We exclude no foreigner who is rejected by his own nation, or who settles quietly amongst us; but we do not like aggressive aliens. What have the inhabitants of our Dictionaries done that they should be pushed from their proper places by such degrossest of provocations. He had been sub-

cided aliens as solidarity and solidarily? Why should we hear of the "expedition of goods" from one to another?—of "the special authorization of Government "? When such strangers stand before us, suspicion is a virtue: if not watched, we shall find our dear old English terms destroyed, as the beautiful word mercy is in danger of being, through the unaccountable predilection which the bishops who compose our prayers entertain for the ugly monster, mercifulness. In conclusion, we may remark, that many of the provisions of the French law are worthy of the particular attention of our Law reformers. We trust they have already considered the working of the provisions for the limited liability of sleeping partners; if not, they can do so before the new Acts are amended, as, no doubt, they will be in the sessions of 1856, 1857, and 1858. Again, while we do not altogether like the principle of the French bankruptcy laws, and should be sorry to see a man who fails in business re-instated only on payment of his debts in full with interest, we cannot but consider the law that sends the fraudulent bankrupt to the hulks as justly applicable to those disgraceful cases that occasionally, though rarely, occur in this country.

Notes on Duels and Duelling, alphabetically arranged; with a Preliminary Historical Essay. By Lorenzo Sabine. Boston, Crosby, Nichols & Co.

DUELLING has found a pleasant advocate in Jules Janin. The French critic holds, that the man who is reluctant to meet a fellow man, "with swords for two," is lost not merely in the world of brave men, but in that of cravens,-on the ground that the multitude of cowards, by whom he is surrounded, will affect courage at his expense. Further, it is M. Janin's opinion, that the man is lost in this world-in which opinion is everything-who is afraid to win good opinion at the point of the sword. "What is to become of the man," exclaims M. Janin, "who in this world of hypocrites and calumniators dares not demand reparation, sword in hand, for the calumnies and malicious reports to which he has been exposed?" The best thing he could do, to our thinking, would be to disprove the calumny-or to despise it. He proves nothing by giving the calumniator a chance to run him through the body or to send a bullet through his brain. M. Janin thinks otherwise. In his view of the subject, we owe the small remains of civilization upon earth to the practice of duelling. Suppress that practice, and humanity would perish; we should have no more of the sinews and sentiments of men than are possessed by the pulpy people who, according to Prof. Whewell, inhabit the wide-spreading plain of the planet Jupiter.

There have been two or three men in our own world almost as wise as M. Jules Janin.
"If thou art weary of life," said Marius to the bold Teuton who challenged him, "go and hang thyself." Themistocles was no coward, and yet he would rather take a blow than neglect of good counsel from Eurybiades. In later times, the Count of Savoy challenged the Dauphin of Viennois: -- "Hark ye, Sir Count," said the lusty Dauphin, "I will send you one of my wild bulls; and, if you be so minded, you may struggle till you are tired with an antagonist not easily overcome." We suppose that M. Janin will not dispute the bravery and gallant bearing of Turenne; and yet, according to the critic, the hero of Sintzheim and the Rhine must be a lost man in the eyes of all the sections into which M. Janin divides the world, for Turenne refused to fight a duel, under the

jected to a disgusting insult by a rash young | knight: 'coward I am none, and in this quarrel will | officer, and as quickly drew his sword to resent as the other to defend it. But Turenne thrust his weapon back into the sheath, remarking as he did so:-"Young man, if I could wipe your blood from my conscience as easily as I have wiped the filthy proof of your folly from my face, I would take your life upon the spot." M. Janin is an exceedingly clever person, but we very much doubt if even he will be able to persuade his countrymen that the Turenne who fell so gloriously at Salzbach, in front of the artillery of Montecuculi, was a coward for refusing to avenge an insult by a crime.

The very founders of the "institution" of duelling seem to have had some suspicion as to the iniquity of the practice. They, at all events, impeded the free adoption of the latter by introducing "the Saviour's Truce," by which duels were prohibited from Wednesday to Monday, because those days had been consecrated by our Saviour's Passion. This only left Tues-day open as the "fashionable day" for killing; and this result was a good one,—although there is some obscurity in the religious reason upon

which it was founded.

The good St. Augustine never was challenged, except by some malignant, but not always illogical, Donatist, and then only to a duel of literary controversy. St. Augustine, therefore, is not to be found in Mr. Sabine's 'Dictionary of Duellists.' Nevertheless, we find in the Saint an excellent remark, very germane to the matter. When a Donatist adversary added to his arguments a taunt, to the effect that the majority of writers were on his side, and against St. Augustine, the Numidian saint replied with great force, that it was the sign of a cause destitute of truth to rely only on the authority of many men, who may err. So may it be said that it is better to obey the injunction which says, "Thou shalt commit no murder, rather than to be led away by the arguments of any number of men who endeavour to persuade you that you may infringe the law in the shape of duelling.

The opinion of St. Augustine, thus applied, has not had, it must be confessed, much efficacy in France. In the palmy days of duelling, 4,000 gentlemen were killed in rencontres in the short space of eighteen months, according to some chroniclers; of ten years, according to Mr. Sabine. In the former period of time, 14,000 pardons were granted to parties who had been caught in the act of breaking the law, by settling their paltry disputes on an issue of death. In one province alone of France, -in Limousin, -120 gentlemen were slain in duels within six months! The Church encouraged what the State denounced, by giving absolution to the survivor, in return for some appropriate offer-The piety of the giver was made the ground of extending pardon to him, just as Hector was declared to be dear to the gods in general, and to Jupiter in particular, for the reason that the son of Priam had covered with "rich gifts" the altar of the Father of Olympus.

In the Historical Essay prefixed to the Dictionary, Mr. Sabine pleasantly points out how cunningly the knightly wit suited the quarrel

to the chivalric conscience :-

" In theory, as will be seen, the combatants always fought in a just cause. But it could not have been so in fact, nor was it so in many cases, even in the belief of the parties themselves; and those who in passion, or from unworthy motives, took up an unrighteous quarrel, resorted to various expedients to relieve their consciences, and to put themselves in the right. These evasive shifts are well illustrated in the story of a knight who entered the lists upon a case which he knew was wrong, and who, to change the issue, fled at the first onset. 'Turn, coward!' be so treated by a stripling. The ancient exclaimed hisantagonist.—'Thou liest!' retorted the manner of duelling, as adopted on the occasion stead of the *Place* Royale. Of the mustachio

I fight to the death; but my first cause of combat was unjust, and I abandon it."

Cardinal de Richelieu endeavoured to suppress duelling by executing duellists, but he could not suppress their spirit. When François de Montmorency was on the scaffold, about to lose his head for indulging too extensively in the prohibited amusement, he caressed his mustachios while the executioner sharpened his axe. "Oh, my son," said the Bishop of Nantes, who stood by him, "do you still think of the vanities of this life?"—"I think only of my mustachios," said François; "they are the prettiest mustachios in all France."

The Cavalier custom of duelling was, strangely enough, introduced into New England by two Puritan serving-men. The rencontre is thus

"Doty, Edward, and Edward Leister. At Plymouth, in 1621. The parties were servants of Stephen Hopkins, and having a dispute, they settled it_gentleman-like_with sword and dagger. Both were wounded. Without a statute law on the subject, the whole company of Puritans assembled to consider and to punish the offence. The decision was the wisest that could have been made. Doty and Leister were ordered to be tied together, heads and feet, for twenty-four hours, without food or drink; but the intercession of their master, their own humility, and promises, procured a speedy

-This checked the hot blood of young Puritans, but only for a time. In later days, "Castle Island (now Fort Independence), in Boston Harbour, was once celebrated as a duelling-ground for the hot-headed sons of New England are inclined to think that the evil practice would have been effectually checked in Old England had Parliament adopted the very serious resolution moved by Mr. Turner in the year 1844, whereby the survivor in a duel was to be liable to pay the debts of a deceased antagonist! In such a case the dying man would have the satisfaction of knowing that he owed no man anything. But then who would call out a man who had a heavy account against him at his tailor's? Chivalry would suffer more than it did at the hands of Cervantes were Mr. Nugee, or any other fashionable tailor, to be found present at a contest between two customers, and, at the close of it, stepping over the body of a slain patron, to present his "little bill" to the disgusted survivor.

The German governments have sought to check the practice of duelling by a melo-dramatic and rather Germanically-solemn con-"In 1851, the survivor of a duel was compelled by the authorities to be present at the post-mortem examination of the body of his victim, and to pay strict attention to the

proceedings of the surgeons.'

Mr. Sabine's pages are full of pleasant research, and he even traces prize-fights to the filial piety of the Brutus who introduced gladiatorial combats to solemnize the funeral of his father. From this Roman-ist source we should, however, be rather disposed to derive the "skrimmages which enliven, if they do not solemnize, the incidents of an Irish wake. To show further not remotely Mr. Sabine goes back in his researches, it is only necessary to point to the account, at page 184, of the little rencontre between a young Hebrew and a gentleman of Cath. The letter was the abeliance in the Mr. Mr. Gath. The latter was the challenger, but Mr. Sabine thinks that "perhaps the motives of the former, in accepting the cartel, were not entirely patriotic or disinterested." Mr. Sabine seems to be of opinion that the youth was less courteous than need have been to his elder adversary, and that the latter was not a man deserving to

alluded to in the page above quoted, was not that which was in the memory of the hero of the following record .-

"Allen, — (an eccentric, half-insane Irish lawyer, of some note in his time), and a brother of the bar, whose name does not appear. It is related in 'Curran and his Contemporaries,' that Allen dashed his bar-wig in the face of his brother lawver, and nearly blinded him with the powder, and that a meeting was the consequence. The attorney fired and missed; Allen, who had purposely reserved his fire, brandishing his pistol furiously about, to the imminent danger of all within its range, wildly demanded of his awe-struck second, in whose mind's eye the gallows largely loomed, 'Shall I rush on him with a shout, after the manner of the ancients?

The ancients themselves, however, could hardly have been more barbarous than some of

the moderns,—witness the following:—
"Biddle, Thomas, and Spencer Pettis. In Missouri, in 1831. Both killed. Biddle was the challenged party, and, being near-sighted, stipulated a distance of five feet, with pistols. Their weapons, in position, actually overlapped each other. conducted with remarkable coolness. They exchanged forgiveness on the ground. Pettis died the day after, and Biddle the third day after the duel: the former was a member of Congress elect from Missouri, the latter a major in the army of the United States, and a brother of Nicholas Biddle, the celebrated banker. The quarrel commenced in the newspapers of St. Louis, during an election

American senators often fight upon any or no quarrel; but some among them are too wise for such a folly,—and we are happy to record a fact so satisfactory. Thus, in 1797, the two honourable members Blount and Thatcher quarrelled in the Senate.-

"The offence was given in debate. Mr. Blount introduced a series of resolutions on the subject of 'Defensive Measures,' one of which contemplated the putting of eighty thousand of the militia of the country 'in a state of requisition.' Mr. Thatcher, in the course of his remarks to the House, commented upon the phrase 'requisition,' as a French term of which he was not fond, and said that, while he had no objection to holding such a number of men 'in readiness,' he entertained the hope that the sentiment would be expressed in 'American lan-

-Language of a very sharp quality ensued, the end of which was that Blount sent a "requisition' to Thatcher to meet him in deadly combat, but Thatcher declared in good American language (which need not be translated into barbarous English) that he was not in readiness .-

Mr. Thatcher's answer afforded much amusement at the expense of his chivalrous adversary, and was, in substance, that, being a husband and a father, his family had an interest in his life, and that he could not think of accepting the invitation without the consent of his wife, then at home at Massachusetts, whom he would immediately consult."

Mr. Thatcher was wiser than the Irish gentleman Mr. Bourke, whose fight with Amby Bodkin is thus described .-

"The parties fought, principals and seconds, at ten paces, with pistols, at right angles, and all fired on a signal from an umpire. A child of Bourke (subsequently Sir John Bourke) was held upon a man's shoulder to see 'papa fight.' The two principals were slightly wounded at the first fire, and at the second the seconds and Bodkin were severely hurt; but no lives were sacrificed. Several of Bourke's servants were present."

We believe that these incidents are correctly related; but there are several statements in these pages which evidence haste, if not lack of knowledge, on the part of the author. Thus, Mr. Sabine speaks of the old Courier as "a paper which supported the Liberals,"-and he gives the locality of the duel, for fighting which François de Montmorency suffered while adincident, so characteristic of the man and of the times in which he lived and was about to die, Mr. Sabine makes no mention. Mr. Sabine's French also seems to be rather that of Stratfordatte-Bowe than that of Paris. For example :-

"Charles X., King of France, and the Duke of Bourbon. In the year 1778, when the king was known as the Count d'Artois. The offence was on the part of the Count, who, at a ball in the opera Paris, pulled off the mask worn by the Duchess of Bourbon. The Duke, who was a Condé, and father of the Duke d'Enghien, for his challenge to the Count, was banished to Chantilly."

Salle de l'opéra does not mean, as Mr. Sabine has translated it, "opera-hall," but "operahouse." We have, however, quite as indifferent translators on this side the Atlantic. an English version of Lamartine's 'Girondins.' some courtly people and incidents are described as figuring "under the vaults" of the Tuileries, instead of "beneath the arched galleries" (sous les voûtes) of that palace. These remarks will not, we trust, be followed by sanguinary results; but comments quite as simple appear to have been occasionally followed in America by fatal consequences. Some editors there, like Lord Norbury in Ireland, would seem to have begun the world with "50l. and a pair of horse-trigger pistols." The Irish Judge was not less cool than our own lawyer Thurlow, who when on his way to fight Stewart in Kensington Gardens, stopped to eat an enormous breakfast by the way, at a tavern near Hyde Park Corner. It must be confessed, too, that if the American duels recorded in this volume are some of them comic and some of them barbarous, the English duels are in nowise behind them in either respect. Here are samples of both,-the first of barbarous.-

"Williams and Bennett. British physicians of note, in the seventeenth century. They fought with swords and pistols. Bennett, mortally wounded, and with the sword of his antagonist in his body, prayed to God for strength to avenge himself, and succeeded in giving Williams a fatal stab."

The following is of a comic cast :-

"Winnington, —, and Augustus Townsend. In Hyde Park, in 1741. Winnington, a statesman who held various offices, and Pitt's predecessor as Pay-master of the Forces; Townsend, 'a pert boy,' says Walpole, the second son of the minister, Lord Townsend, and Captain of an Indiaman. Winnington was the challenger. They walked into the Park on Sunday morning, 'scratched one another's fingers, tumbled into two ditches, that is, Augustus did, kissed, and walked home together.

We began by speaking of the first Puritan duel in America between two serving-men :-we conclude with the description of the first political or party duel in England, between two

"Marlborough, Duke of. Challenge to the Earl of Paulett, in 1712. The Tories of England, as early as 1706, commenced their clamours against the Duke, who, they declared, was governed by selfish motives, and sacrificed the interests of his country for his own private advantage. Three years later, the public sentiment had become general, and he was accused, on all hands, of prolonging the war, and of sacrificing human life to increase his property and reputation. In 1710, he became an object of derision. Instances of his fraud, avarice, and extortion, of his cruelty and misconduct, were related everywhere. The year following, the Earl of Angle-sey said in Parliament, that 'a good peace might have been obtained, but for the conduct of some persons who prolonged the war, for their own private Duke could not misunderstand the inends.' The sinuation, and vindicated himself in a long speech.
Finally, in 1712, the Earl of Paulett ventured to utter in his place, that the Duke of Ormond 'was not like a certain general who led troops to the slaughter, to cause a great number of officers to be knocked in the head, that he might fill his pockets by disposing of their commissions.' Marlborough remained silent. But as soon as the Lords adjourned,

invitation 'to go and take the air in the country.' The Earl inquired, whether he should take the invitation to mean a challenge. 'The message,' plied Mohun, 'requires no explanation; I accompany the Duke of Marlborough, and your lordship will do well to provide a second.' The Earl was unable to conceal his emotion; and his wife communicated the affair to the Earl of Dartmouth, Secretary of State, who informed the Queen. Her Majesty desired the Duke to relinquish his de-This, as is sign, and he accordingly abandoned it. supposed, is the first party or political duelever contemplated.

With this extract we commit to the shelves, where are ranged other books of reference, this alphabetical record of fighting, fury, folly, and fanaticism.

Life with the Zulus of Natal, South Africa. By G. H. Mason. Longman & Co.

Mr. Mason is a simple narrator, and that is the secret of the charm which we find He tells us, tritely, of the in his book. difficulties which beset a young man's career; he invites us to sympathize with himself and his brother when they quitted College for Africa; he adds to the thousand and one dioramas of a sea voyage, and even expects that we shall bestow the praise of ingenuity upon a youth of original conceptions, who put a hair across a telescope and affirmed it to be "the line." This, however, is venial monotony, incomparable with the prescriptive iteration of more pedantic travellers. As soon as Mr. Mason sets foot in Natal he fulfils the promise of his title-page, and records his anecdotes of life in a wild country. He has no statistics, no notes on political economy, no parenthetical pamphlet wedged into his narrative: all is personal, vivacious and entertaining.

The brothers found themselves in the capital of Natal possessed of 281. sterling. With this sum they resolved to buy an estate, or "erf," and the way in which they effected their object, with all solemnity and legality, would have been an example to Chancery. They were now burghers of Pieter Maritzberg, with a vested interest in the church, the common, and the cattle-market; but their acres on the Illovo, though purchased and paid for, were yet to be discovered. After many inquiries, Mr. Mason ascertained in what direction to move in search of his virgin lands. Through forests, mountains, and dreary plains he tracked his way, until the Illovo appeared

-and "The Mason Estate."-

"Here and there a limpid fountain gushed out amongst rich pasturage, high up on the hill-side, and sparkled like a mirror in the bright sunshine. Of course we took advantage of this magnificent landscape, and built our house with its front overlooking it, while behind lay the pretty town, scattered over two square miles, with its groves of fruit-trees enclosed by hedgerows of figs and almonds, its snowwhite buildings and vacant erven; the whole commanded by the formidable batteries of Fort Napier. reposing on a rounding hill to the extreme right.

They dug the foundation of their house, found quarry, and worked it themselves .-

And in this way, by the end of a week, we had laid a substantial stone foundation for a house, twenty odd feet long, and fourteen wide, which, as we were bachelors, would be quite large enough for our purpose,

The superstructure was to be formed of brick, and a pit was opened in which these two Cambridge men set themselves to knead the clay.

They laboured by night .-

We tucked up our trousers legs, and doffing shoes and stockings, fell to work right merrily treading the cold clam clay " The hungry walves. ing the cold clam clay. * The hungry wolves, roaming in search of prey about the neighbouring

he sent Lord Mohun to the Earl of Paulett, with an came skeltering past in troops within a hundred invitation 'to go and take the air in the country.' yards, and joined with the croaking frogs of a neighbouring swamp in ridiculing our midnight labours. A few hours' work enabled us to prepare sufficient clay for several hundred bricks, and as the tramping of it was the only obnoxious part of the proceeding, we postponed all further operations till next morning. * * Our first day at brick-making was not so remarkable for the number made, as for the peculiarity of their shape: some of the bricks had out with a run,' and spread themselves into flooring tiles; others had stuck to the moulds so tenaciously, that, when they did come out, they had grown to double their proper length, and had assumed a twisted form; while some few had managed to retain their shape right manfully, in spite of jerks and fingermarks. All of them, however, long, short, and broad, were bricks, and though they differed as to form, still served alike to build the house. A useful hint to churchmen !"

A Zulu hired himself to them at a low salary; but he could not undertake to do "skilled labour," such as reaping flags for thatch.—

" This was a very disagreeable operation, for the marsh abounded with long green snakes, very beautiful but venomous; and as we reaped we were continually killing them with our sickles. Indeed, on several occasions, especially when tying up bundles of the flags that had lain in heaps at the brink of the marsh all night, we actually got them in our hands with the flags, and, from their bright green hue, only discovered them as they wriggled out of the handful of rushes and endeavoured to escape.'

Their earliest profits were made by the sale of oats and straw; and the account of their ways and means supplies a genuine picture of the settler's first struggles in a new country. But they manfully braved their perplexities, and soon began to gain a reputation for bricks.

"The only fault in our Caffre labourers arose from their excessive gallantry; for (I should observe) it is a native rule never to allow Caffre maidens to pass within sight without saluting them, or else, intercepting their path, standing quite mute and motions, while the girls survey them and pass on. Now it frequently happened that troops of girls came in from the Caffre craals with maize, thatch, milk, eggs, wild fruit, sugar-cane, potatoes, &c. &c. for sale; and, no sooner did their shrill song reach the ears of our servants, than they rushed from their work just as they were, some besmeared with mud, others spattered with white-wash, and the rest armed with spades, pickaxes, buckets, brick-moulds, or whatever else chanced to be in their hands at the moment.'

Building cottages, they procured tenants for them, and had commissions from Dutchmen with heavy purses to erect shooting boxes on their South African estates. Mr. Mason's narrative of a waggon journey to one of these locations is uncommonly picturesque; as well as his account of a bridal pageant on the Umlaass.

"Scarcely had we taken our station near the Umdodie (husband), when a low shrill chant came floating on the breeze from the bottom of a lovely vale hard by; where I discovered a long train of damsels, slowly wending their way amongst bright green patches of Indian corn and masses of flowering shrubs, studded with giant cactus and the huge flowering aloe. As the procession neared the huts, they quickened their pace and raised their voices to the highest pitch, till they arrived at the said cattle craal, where they stood motionless and silent."

Entering the habitation of the bridegroom, "the ladies formed two lines, with the bride in the centre, and struck up a lively air; whereupon the whole body of armed Caffres rushed from all parts of the craal, beating their shields and uttering demon yells as they charged headlong at the smiling girls, who joined with the stalwart warriors in cutting capers and singing lustily, till the whole craal was one confused mass of dancers, roaring out hoarse war-songs and shrill love-ditties. After an hour dancing ceased, and Joila (Caffre beer) was served round, while the lovely bride stood in the midst of the ring alone, stared at by all and staring in turn at all, until hills, were howling dismally at our cheerless lot; she brought her eyes to bear on her admiring lord; while laughing jackals, uttering their piercing cry, then, advancing leisurely, she danced before him, d

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Jacob, the Zulu, who sat over the fire "taking Jacob, the Zulu, who sat over the hre "taking snuff wholesale with a small bone spoon, till the tears streamed down his cheeks," was a sort of hospitable Man Friday, with a talent for milking wild cows. The manners of the half-sophisticated servitors, of whom he was a specimen, contrast distinctly with those of the Caffre or Zulu uninfluenced by contact with Europeans. The Caffres, like the Arabs, have an intense hatred of swine, and will not touch pigs' flesh except with long sticks. Their antipathy to the Dutch seems almost as inveterate. Mr. Mason was entertained by his driver with many stories of the warfare thus engendered .-

"Waggon camps, he told us, were the favourite resorts of the Dutch in times of trouble: they are formed simply by drawing up a number of waggons in a circle, within which the oxen and families are placed for security. The spaces beneath and be-tween the waggons are then closely filled with goods and bushes, so as to prevent the possibility of a Caffre creeping through, without getting his head split with an axe by the swarms of women and children who carefully keep guard; while the men fire from under cover of their waggons, each man having several guns for the women to load as fast as the men fire, and thus they keep up an incessant shower of balls on their assailants, not one of which is ever fired at random."

Mr. Mason's record of his adventures among the Zulus is neither formal nor profound: it contains, however, some graphic sketches of life in a half-savage country. We must consult other writers on the "progress and resources" of Natal; but to such as would know how a student of Sidney-Sussex College, Cambridge, lived a rough life in South Africa, and prospered by the work of his own hands, these two parts of "The Traveller's Library" offer agreeable reading.

Tahiti: a Romance of the South Sea-[Tahiti, &c.]. By F. Gerstäcker. Leipzig, Coste-noble; London, Williams & Norgate.

Tales of the Desert and the Bush. From the German of Friedrich Gerstäcker. Edinburgh, Constable & Co.

Herr Gerstäcker is a novelist who has cut out for himself a path in which he is not likely to find many competitors. A traveller in regions which lie far beyond the limits of ordinary tourists, he takes with him a happy faculty for characteristic observation, and shows considerable proficiency in adapting the form of the ordinary historical novel to materials yet untouched by fiction. As the dealer in the com-mon-places of English history forms a background of Cavaliers and Roundheads, and places a domestic story in front, so does Herr Ger-stäcker, in his novel of 'Tahiti,' take for the historical basis of a love tale, those squabbles between the English missionaries and the French in the island of Tahiti,—which, about twelve years ago, were regarded with some alarm, as likely to cause an unpleasant feeling between the governments of Queen Victoria and Louis Philippe, and were the cause of much hard speaking in Exeter Hall. The non-historical hero of Herr Gerstäcker's

'Tahiti' is a young Frenchman, named René Delavigne, who escapes from an American whaler, and takes refuge among the fastnesses of the island of Atiu, one of the group of which Tahiti is the principal. Here he falls in love with Sadie, a native girl, who has saved him from the pursuit of the whaler's crew. Sadie,

Pomare, painting both them and their coats as black as possible, and evidently thinking that the islanders would have fared much better with their original heathenism. So liberal, indeed, is good Mr. Osborne, that, although René is a Catholic, he consents to his marriage with his adopted daughter, Sadie, in spite of certain misgivings as to the future, and also in spite of the offence he gives to his sterner brethren.

Atiu is a kind of terrestrial paradise, and so long as René, his wife, and the child who soon blesses their union are domiciled there, they form a picture of happiness such as Bernardin de St.-Pierre might have contemplated with delight. But circumstances take them to Papetee, the capital of Tahiti, where native simplicity has been sadly contaminated by European vice. Moreover, the residence at Papetee brings René into contact with some decidedly genteel French families, and poor Sadie is in a somewhat false position. A good-humoured French lady would introduce her into society, but an American dame shrinks from her as a woman of colour; and at a grand party her complexion exposes her to the insult of a naval officer, who does not expect that a girl of the South Sea Islands will be offended by any amount of licentious gallantry. What is worse than all even than the duel in which René is engaged on account of the insult aforesaid-is the fact that René has made the acquaintance of a fascinating and designing young lady, and indulges in thoughts by no means favourable to domestic felicity. Things look worse and worse, and Sadie can see no prospect of happiness, except in a return to her own island of Atiu. Alas! the dream of bliss is never to be realized. She and her child leave Tahiti for Atiu, and René is to join them,-but the troubles which break out in the island, and in which he is forced to take an active part, hinder him from fulfilling his intention, and he is even persuaded to return to Europe without taking leave of Sadie. When after a lapse of years he visits Atiu, he finds that she has died of grief, leaving behind her a daughter, who is the image of herself, and whom he fondly embraces, but abruptly quits, unwill-ing to plunge her into the corruptions of the civilized world.

Into this very simple story, which is told with much pathos, Herr Gerstäcker introduces a vast number of vividly-drawn figures, such as can only be found in that peculiar state of semicivilization which belongs to the South Sea. A convict and his wife, who keep a spirit-shopnautical desperado of a new stamp—a converted native, who, though himself a missionary, has strong heathen reminiscences and predilections, are oddities that will not easily be found elsewhere, and stand out conspicuously among a motley group of Tahitian chiefs and kind-featured Methodists, of refined French ladies and wild native girls,—all of whom receive a due share of attention from Herr Gerstäcker. The political events of the island furnish him with countless adventures of "broil and battle," which he sets forth with all the certainty of a man well acquainted with places and people. We only regret that he has not been a little more endowed with the virtue of brevity; but as he has endeavoured to fill the office of Tahitian historian, at the same time that he sets forth a tale of ordinary interest, we must admit that his double task was a natural temptation to a more than usual amount of prolixity, and allow him his four volumes.

amid shouts of the bystanders, singing at the top of her voice, and brandishing a huge carving-knife." | dislike of the black-coated councillors of Queen her voice, and brandishing a huge carving-knife." | Homework of the black-coated councillors of Queen her voice, and brandishing a huge carving-knife."

Every Boy's Book: a Complete Encyclopædia of Sports and Amusements, intended to afford Recreation and Instruction in their Leisure Hours. By George Forrest. Routledge &

"Every boy," when he buys this book, will probably be surprised to find that, among the "sports and amusements" which Mr. Forrest has provided for him, as affording "recreation and instruction" in his "leisure hours," is arithmetic! He who remembers and indorses the rhyme about "multiplication is a vexation" will be little disposed to account the author liberal. But let him be comforted: the author liberal. But let him be comforted; Mr. Forrest, a ludimagister himself, holds with another ancient saw, touching the effect of "all work and no play" upon the senses of the legendary "Jack"; and his "arithmetic" only forms a portion of the section which comes under the head of "Scientific Amusements." The other sections comprise everything that can concern a boy, and some which ought not to do so. The book would have been as well, nay better, without the chapters on Gymnastics and Boating, matters upon which no tyro should venture without a master, unless he would risk breaking his neck by the one and getting drowned by the other. We think, too, that the instruction on Fireworks might have been omitted without loss.

The other portions of the book, and especially those entitled "The Young Naturalist" and "Parlour Amusements," are well executed. The author loves play as well as teaching, and he is "professor" of both. What made Nausicaa, the daughter of King Alcinous, so excellent a mother to the young Ptoliporthus? She had been presented, when young, by Aganella, of Coreyra, with the first ball that was ever invented, and was taught that play after labour was the well-earned privilege of the young. Mr. Forrest makes a more valuable present, with similar instruction. The instruction, however, occasionally grows old — as, for instance, where he tells "every boy" that "those most clumsy, dangerous and awk-ward vehicles, called Hansom's Safety-Cabs, are to be avoided at all times." The more solemn warnings, too, of the author are marked by something of a singular quality. Thus, at the end of a chapter on horsemanship, he exclaims, with a sort of Pythagorean vigour, "My young friends, be kindly affectionate,"—not "one to another," as the apostolic injunction has it, but "to your horse or pony,"—for, adds the author, "be assured of this, that He who made 'an ass to speak,' and reproved the cruelty of a prophet, will love those who are kind to the creatures he has made." This is rather in the vein of the conjuror's sermon upon "He poured me out like water," and the union of the theologian with the master of the ceremonies seems as incongruous as that combination of office in an Athenian family, where the same gentleman-and he a slave-taught mathematics and the flageolet. This was to the boys; and when the young gentlemen had finished their studies, the captive instructor went and gave lessons in dancing to the young

The Athenian boys were not without their games, -- more of which have come down to our times than are noticed in this volume. But strom the pursuit of the whater's crew. Sade, it should be observed, is a pious, Protestant Christian, educated by Mr. Osborne, a very worthy missionary, and a striking contrast to the rest of his fraternity, as exhibited in the tale,—for Herr Gerstäcker writes with a strong

school; when evening came, they were again under the roof of their parents; and they could have practised none of the active games explained by Mr. Forrest, on their way; for, going or returning, they were accompanied by the domestic "Pædagogus," whose office it was to inculcate wisdom as he walked along with his pupils. He must have been an awful bore!

The Athenian females seem to have had far more fun in them; and we can fancy that the chapter in the book before us on gymnastics would be exceedingly relished by that damsel immortalized by Aristophanes, who exercised herself in jumping, till her heels touched her back, and who acquired such strength thereby as to be vigorous enough to strangle a bull. She would, probably, have jumped all the higher, could there have ensued what happened to that lively girl "Marie Germain," corded in the most sparkling of the Essays of Montaigne.

There was as much system in the education and sports of the Athenian as of the Lacedemonian youth :- with this difference, that the former had a private, the latter a public character. The French Republic mimicked and caricatured both systems, when the Government undertook to decree at what month "weaning" should begin. Sparta cared for little, except that the boy should not grow He might be dirty, was taught to despise literature, was thought none the worse for being a thief, and was praised if he could cram much impudent wit into the very briefest of phrases. He learned that to be brave was to be wise, and that a peaceful pursuit like that of agriculture was employment for a slave. Parish Alvars or Frederick Chatterton would never have been able to get up a benefit concert in Laconia. When Timotheus played too exquisitely, the Ephori cut four strings from the

There was something of a Muscovite spirit in the object of the Athenian education for boys; for they were bound, on ceasing to be mere boys,-bound by the most stringent of oaths,-not only to defend the frontiers of their country, but never to cease attempting to extend them as long as there were wheat, wine, and wealth in any country beyond them! The result in both cases was what Mr. Blackpool would call "a muddle." There were grand rather than great men in Greece, and inconsistency everywhere. Themistocles was little-minded enough to be jealous of Aristides, as Pericles was of Cimon. The people who starved Pausanias to death honoured his memory-Sparta was aristocratic and simple-Athens democratic and luxurious. We do not know, however, that we moderns have any right to throw stones. With Christian profession we keep to much of the heathen practice; and yet we have what the Athenians had not, an "Everybody's Book," with Pelion-upon-Ossa in the way of explanation, in order to make our practice agree with our profession. We are still heathens "with a difference." In Rome, when a father was in debt he could sell his son. In England, when a son is in the same predicament, he sells his father. Voilà tout!

Selections from the Papers of Lord Metcalfe, late Governor-General of India, Governor of Jamaica, and Governor-General of Canada. Edited by John William Kaye, Smith, Elder

In noticing 'The Life of Lord Metcalfe' [Athen. No. 1402], we observed that few works better deserved to be studied by public servants, whether civil or military. The same remark

Kaye then promised, and which justify the expectations we had formed of them. The volume is divided into three parts:-the first part contains selections from Metcalfe's earlier papers, until he became a Member of the Supreme Council: the second furnishes the reader with some of his most important minutes while in Council and during his brief Governor-Generalship of India; in the third are a few of his despatches from Jamaica and Canada. The whole volume forms an excellent sequel to the 'Life,' and is worthy of attentive perusal. It is true the interest in the events that gave rise to these despatches has passed away, but the calm sagacity, the candour and disinterestedness, the high and honourable spirit, which they breathe, are for all time. Few men have infused so much of individual character into their despatches as Metcalfe-few Lives require less supplementary labour from the biographer than his life. The task of the biographer has, indeed, been rather to condense and adjust, than to elucidate, and in this concluding volume to select, -a duty which Mr. Kaye has well discharged.

Of the three parts the second is perhaps the most valuable-and at the same time the most interesting. It contains the fruit of many years' official application and study, and is replete with observations which may serve as maxims to the student of Indian politics on almost every subject of importance connected with our Empire in Hindostan. With the truest patriotism and the utmost zeal for the interests and glory of his own country, Metcalfe combined a thoughtful consideration of what is due to the people of India, and a benevolent care of their welfare. He was not one of those, still unfortunately so numerous, who in order to stand well in the opinion of Government, and to make a goodly show of figures in the revenue column, would exact the uttermost from the Ryot, careless of the transfer of long-vested rights which such rigour often entails. What his views on such subjects were we may learn from a letter without date, but which appears to have been written the year before his accession to Council, to one who, with a great and well-founded reputation for zeal, bore also the character of too much sternness, and who afterwards perished by the

hand of a dissatisfied claimant. Metcalfe

The difference between the system you follow and that which I would like to see established appears to me to be this: you insist on the full share of government, and make that your principal, if not your sole, object. I think that the established share of government is too much, that it ought never to be rigidly exacted, that the interests of government would be more promoted by taking less, and that the revenue would in time be more increased if the cultivators were allowed to enjoy in greater freedom the produce of their own industry. In making a settlement, we must, of course, take the established share of government as a foundation. But in the calculations ensuing, I would lean to the interests of the cultivators, and make the terms of the settlement light and easy for them. And by making the settlements for long periods I would hold out to them the prospect of great profit from their own industry. I think that the result would greatly enrich the government by enriching the body of the people. I would avoid the practice of measuring the crops, that being a practice which is universally disgusting. and which, it appears to me, cannot fail of being so. Putting myself in the situation of the cultivators, I feel that I would, if possible, give up cultivation in disgust if I could not raise a field of corn without the collector's people coming to measure it, and exact the full share, and perhaps more than the share, of government. All compulsory measures in cultivation appear to me to be bad; and whenever it may whether civil or military. The same remark be necessary to bind people by penalties to cultivate applies to the volume of papers which Mr. a certain quantit of land, or certain sorts of grain,

and not to cultivate in other villages, such measures I should lament as the bad effects of a rigid and violent system. I would depend for a future increase of revenue on the effects, which I believe to be natural, of allowing men to reap the benefit of their own industry. I would let them cultivate as much or as little as they found it for their own interest to cultivate; and the sort of grain or other produce should be at their own option. The benefit which a would derive from cultivating their own land I show. expect would render any restraint on that point ur necessary. No people labour so indolently as thos who work in chains and by compulsion. Heavity exertion is always self-willed, and with a view to selfinterest. The justice, the benevolence, the wi the expediency, the necessity of a system of ce tion towards the Zameendars, would appear to me 'o be indisputable, were it not that you apparently pursue one of compulsion. If you think that force alorais calculated for the management of these people. shall respect both your opinion and your exp. but it will require strong proofs to convince me. The difference in revenue between a light ettlement and a rigid one may not be very great; but the difference in consequences is incalculated. A few thousand rupees too much exacted may ruin a district, and drive the inhabitants to emigration,

-We find the same tenderness for the "ghte of others, the same impartiality and ir from one-sided views, running throughout these Papers. His zeal for the business in which he was engaged, and his high sense of duty to the Government under which he acted never led Metcalfe into harshness or injustice. Even when commenting on the incapacity of the Nizam for the duties of his station, he adds: "Nevertheless, he is 'more sinned against than sinning,' and I can hardly imagine a situation more entitled to pity, or more calculated to disarm censure, than that of a prince so held in subjection by a servant, supported by an irre-sistible foreign power." So, too, when justly offended at the incendiary spirit of certain Baptist Missionaries in Jamaica, he does not put out of sight the "inestimable" services they had previously rendered to the Colony; nor even while suffering a protracted martyrdom from the ravages of a cruel disease could the falsehoods or the arrogance of the ultraliberals in Canada move hin · his accustomed candour and equity. " E 24.

But though equitable to his opponents. Metcalfe, where occasion required, could pursu stern measures with the "tmost vigour; and he never palliated abuses or refrained from exposing them. Thus he warred against an iniquitous cabal at Hyderabad with uncompro-mising hostility. Not even the influence of the Governor-General, for whom he had otherwise the greatest respect, and with whom he had lived on terms of the closest friendship, could sway him to countenance the intrigues of Palmer's house, though one of the members of that house was personally his friend and had married a ward of Lord Hastings. In the same spirit he resisted the encroachments of the Supreme Courts, as the tribunals of the King's Judges at the several Presidencies are called.

It is not necessary to allude, even in the briefest manner, to all the various subjects which are treated of in these Metcalfe Papers: -suffice it to say, that almost all questions of paramount importance are discussed. Military matters are handled as felicitously as civil. Indeed, in the camps of Lake and Combermere, Metcalfe had had much experience, and had won his spurs in the storming of Deeg. He was, therefore, entitled to speak of war, and the following words from him derive increased weight on this account.-

"Our great success in India has induced the sys-tematic habit of despising our enemies, and thence we are liable to disasters and reverses from which otherwise we might be preserved by the actual mag55

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nitude of our power and extent of our resources. Our Indian Empire is owing solely to our superiority in arms. It rests entirely on that foundation. It is undermined by every reverse, however trifling, and ewould not withstand any serious indication of weakness. All India is at all times looking out for our downfall. The people everywhere would rejoice, or Greenwood into the mistake of endeavouring to ncy that they would rejoice, at our destruction; and ambers are not wanting who would promote it by
all means in their power. Our ruin, if it be ever
commenced, will probably be rapid and sudden. There is, perhaps, no other power on earth, judging rom the superficial nature of our tenure, between

whose highest elevation and utter annihilation the
wak would be so short. 'Aut Cæsar aut nullus.'

the pinnacle to the abyss might be but one step. The fidelity of our native army, on which our existence depends, depends itself on our continued success. Its courage and confidence must be fed by orv, and would not survive repeated defeat and

r. These sentiments are not new. They are applicate to all times in our Indian history, since our power accame predominant. They lie dormant, perhaps in days of peace and apparent security; but the stign sest disaster rouses them into active sensi-

will be well if these sentiments are ever borne .. in mind, and serve as a warning in security. deserve to be pondered at the present time, at all future times, by our Indian politicians, for our besetting sin in that country seems to be an overweening and incautious spirit, to which, as in the volume before us, are attributed our first failure at Bhurtpore and our repulses in the opening campaigns against Nepaul, -as in later times we have owed to the same pride our Cabul disasters and the protractedness of our struggle

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

Remarks on the Suggested Establishment of a National Order of Merit. By R. Bigsby, LL.D. National Grace of Merit. By K. Bigsby, LL.D. (Whitfield.)—Why Dr. Bigsby should assume that he is himself so indisputably in the right, and that Mr. Blanchard Jerrold is so clearly in the wrong, in the discussion on an Order of Merit, it is not easy to surmise. Mr. Jerrold represented that the question had been raised in a recent cabinet and set aside, and he inferred that our governing classes object part for less, to the idea. He even hinted at the print supposed to dwell in all aristocracies. The point this Dr. Bigsby declares that he has studied the matter more profoundly than Mr. Jerrold, and that Mr. Jerrold is absolutely in error. "Unhesitatingly" he says that no such feeling exists. This is "unquestionable,"—it is "certain,"—it is "certain,"—it is "certain,"—it he he to be doubted." In fact, Dr. Bigsby "cordially believes" that the late Government acted on principles which he proceeds loosely to explain. But, in spite of Dr. Bigsby's ill-concealed dogmatism, we see no reason to rely upon him for a report on the sentiments, "from high to low," of the peerage and its connexions. He has not adduced one statement definite enough to be tested, or one reason better than the prethe question had been raised in a recent cabinet to be tested, or one reason better than the prejudice he denies. Indeed, it ought to have been Cabinet logic, and to bring us intelligence from "the higher circles," should be provided with something more than words as vague as "the idle

Life of Napoleon the Third, Emperor of the French.
By Frederick Greenwood. (Partridge & Oakey.)
—All the most interesting incidents in the career of Louis Napoleon are here related with dramatic point and vigour. Mr. Greenwood brings out the character of his "hero" by citations from his writings and speeches,—suppressing nothing, and concealing none of the contrasts which a less scrupulous biographer might have attempted to elude. Historical justice is satisfied, without a passionate discussion, at an inconvenient time, of acts which are not likely to be forgotten while MM. Victor Hugo and Schoelcher are remembered. Mr. Green-wood, so far, is right in avoiding a judicial sum-mary of the French Emperor's life. He is scarcely so discreet when he prefaces a political biography

explain the conduct of a man whose career has been political and nothing else by other than poli-tical reasonings. It results that, while he tells his story well, he interrupts himself by ambitious prosings, which are barely readable. We give this free counsel to Mr. Greenwood because he has talents and must be cautious in the application of them. The 'Life of Napoleon the Third' is a compact and agreeable book, worth perusal. Lights and Shadows of English Life. By the Authoress of 'Clara Cameron.' 3 vols. (Skeet.)

This is a dull novel, the stupidity of which is only to be equalled by its extreme foolishness. If it had been more lively and more readable, we should have needed to warn young readers against its total want of all right principle and good feeling. As to being "Lights and Shadows of English Life," it might just as well be lights and shadows of life in the moon; properly speaking, there are neither lights nor shadows, but a confusion of discrepancies and improbabilities, which even in the book only hang together from the total absence of the first rudi-ments of common sense. The heroine falls in love, at a boarding-school where she is a pupil, with a man whose very name she does not know, and whom she has every reason to believe is the last man she ought to marry. The keystone of all her woe is, that she hears him afterwards called by a wrong name, and being told that the real individual of that name is about to be married, suffers herself to be forced into a marriage with a certain noble-man of weak intellect, and afterwards, finding her mistake, gives him an assignation to explain himself. The result that was most probable is averted by the accident of her husband coming upon them unexpectedly, and shooting him through the heart, for though an idiot he is an excellent shot. His wife runs away by herself, and finally dies when the novel is little more than half way through; but it

nover is little more than nair way through; but it is difficult to say whether the beginning, middle or end of the book be the most foolish and ineffectual.

Inez: a Tale of the Alama. (New York, Harper Brothers.)—This is an American tale of fine writing and spasmodic emotion; it is dedicated to "the Texan Patriots, who triumphantly unfurled and waved a loft the Ranger of the Lange Stan" who and waved aloft the 'Banner of the Lone Star!' who and waved aloft the 'Banner of the Lone Star!' who wrenched a new country from the iron hands of despotic Mexico, and wreathed the brow of 'The Queen State' with the glorious chaplet of civil and religious liberty." There is something about the Mexican war in the book, written from an entirely American point of view,—there are severe invectives against Santa Anna, and still more bitter denunciations of the Roman Catholic Church and of all the priests who serve it:—these are painted in colours black and sulphureous enough to win the admiration of all Exeter Hall. When we add, that the author kills off without remorse all the characters, except two, who after much strong suffering are allowed to live and get married, we have told our readers what material incidents they have to expect in the book; but we cannot forbear warning them that they will find the flowers of American rhetoric and the figures of speech stronger than may be pleasant to delicate nerves.

Olympus. (Simpkin & Co.)—There are in society some who converse, some who talk, and some who chatter. Books may thus be classified, no less than men, and 'Olympus' belongs to the category of solemn tittle-tattle. Its author has boiled down the studies of-we should say-not a very long life, and presents us with the refuse. So, at least, we must judge if it be true that he has received "a sound moral and classical education," for his volume is a revelation of diseased egotism and stolid flippancy. Lemprière, or Smith, to all appearance, has helped him with antique names appearance, has helper and allusions, which are spread like caltrops over every page. It is a mistake, however, to suppose that classical words make a classical style, or that a precocious mateur is superior to Locke because he calls him "muddle-headed" Our Olympian

rambler affects familiarity with more books than were burnt at Alexandria, but we need not suppose that he has read Montaigne because he has a saucy mention of the "dear old critic"; or that was transfer of the dear off critic; or that he understands Rabelais because he quotes his "sad trash." 'Olympus' has been composed in error. Its author has been fascinated by the error. Its author has been fascinated by the satirists, and has tried to repeat them, as well as to force himself, by dint of technicalities, into a philosophical dissertation. Thus, the evident ingenuity of his mind has been thrown away. If he write again, he must school himself into better habits of thought and expression. Not even the extremest youth would excuse a second production

extremest youth would excuse a second production so impertinent and so unreadable as 'Olympus.'

A Treatise on the Administration of Trust Funds under the Trustee Relief Act. By John Darling. (V. & R. Stevens.)—Every one who has been a trustee knows the vexations of trusteeship. Many will be satisfied to follow Mr. Darling's leadership. in escaping from their responsibilities; others will be glad to be furnished with a cabinet councillor on occasions of dispute or deliberation. To all, at any rate, who are concerned, directly or indirectly, in public or private trusts, this Treatise, with its full Appendices, will be of value. It is addressed to ordinary readers as well as the profession, and is, therefore, unlike some legal manuals, intelligible

without a glossary.

The Ethnological Echibitions of London. By John Conolly, M.D. (Churchill.)—The "Aztecs" seem likely to share the fate of Barnum's Mermaid, after having made as many dupes. Dr. Conolly, in a paper read before the Ethnological Society, insists that they are nothing more than two poor diots, whose humanity has been imperfectly deve-loped, and in whose origin there is nothing eth-nologically singular. He quietly ridicules the statements of their exhibitors, as well as the cre-dulity of their audiences. But, clear as the exposure may be, we are not quite certain that it will leave the Aztec sham without believers. There are persons professing much philosophy who love a new chimera, and therefore put faith in the glit-tering city, the vast temples, the adored dwarfs, and primeval dialect of the fabled nation. For our part, Dr. Conolly's scepticism is far more satisfactory; and we are not surprised to find it applied also to Dr. Kahn's Niam-Niams, or tailed men, representatives of a people said to exist in the unexplored depths of Africa. That there may be such a race ought to be admitted; that there is no one but an advertiser would affirm. Dr. Conolly's doubts are serious, yet he reserves his final opinion until some real specimens, announced as shortly forthcoming, supplant the wax models in Dr. Kahn's Museum. The rest of his paper is devoted to other ethnographical exhibitions, which

are treated in a popular and agreeable style.

Selections from the Best Italian Writers, for the
Use of Students in the Italian Language. By J. P.
Lacaita, LL.D. (Longman & Co.)—The learned
Professor who has arranged this selection from Italian authors has shown equal taste and judgment. By the chronological arrangement of the ment. By the chronological arrangement of the extracts, the student is enabled to compare the phraseology and style of the best poets and prose writers of Italy, and also to acquire a notion of the progress of Italian literature. These are the author's avowed objects. To us, there appears to have been another,—although what seems so may, no doubt, have been mere matter of accident. Ear instance the first piece in the volume is a fine For instance, the first piece in the volume is a fine hymn by St. Francis d'Assissi. It is remarkable for its elevation of tone, its warmth of piety, its intensity of thankfulness for benefits received, its intensity of thankfulness for benefits received, its fullness of confession, its depth of repentant feeling, and its expression of hope in the Lord alone, and in none other. Here is a hymn, written, in the twelfth century, by a canonized saint of Rome, which contains neither allusion to the saints nor mention of the Virgin, nor of her alleged efficacy. This hymn might be sung in any Christian assembly, and probably with more hearty consent, and less mental reserve or addition, than the and less mental reserve or addition, than the 'Universal Prayer' of another son of the Romish Church, not canonized,—Alexander Pope. In some of the other selections we fancy we can discern similar purposes. Thus, in selecting the character

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of Castruccio Castracani, Lord of Lucca, the editor probably desired to recall to the minds of his readers the person and principles of the Czar Nicholas; for he records of the former, that "he was faithless in his dealings with foreign powers, and would never attempt to subdue by force where he knew he could conquer by fraud; for he used to say, that "it was victory, and not the manner of victory, which brought glory to the conqueror. The singular logic of this tortuous tyrant is further seen in his assertion, made in a spirit of pious conviction, that "God is the friend of strong men, seeing that he always punishes the weak by the hands of the powerful." This, perhaps, is a little hands of the powerful." This, perhaps, is a little in the spirit of the idée Napoléonienne, that Heaven is always on the side of the heavier batallions; but it has less of true logic in it than is seen in the legendary recommendation of Cromwell to his troopers, to put their trust in Heaven and keep their powder dry. The reflections of Montecuculi on the happy effects of always being at war may win a smile from the youngest and least reflecting of readers. The latter will see that, two centurie ago, the great Modenese general, in the service of Austria, held that war was not only a pursuit of a highly civilizing nature, but profitable generally, and especially so when it was directed against the But this was said in the day when Austria was not degraded to the cowardly condition of following an expectant policy:-she was at that time bold enough to strike for herself, yet dishonest, as she has ever been, from the period of Rudolph to the era of the young Jager, who shoots caper-callzies, and waits to make alliances till victories are won without the aid of his armed hosts. Brief as the extract from Montecuculi is in this volume. it offers endless matter for reflection upon what Austria was when the Modenese wrote it, and what Austria is, with her armies in the Principalities, terrible only to the women.

The Angler's Song-Book. Compiled and edited by Robert Blakey. (Cox.)—We can very well fancy that Christopher North once "killed eleven dozen of trout and three salmon" in less than three hours"; but we cannot fancy that he, or any other angler, after such feat, or indeed under any other circumstances whatever, could undergo the far more arduous and less profitable labour of singing such lyrics as those which form nine-tenths of this volume. For our own part, we had rather sit a whole day in a punt, and get no single "bite" as the reward of our folly, than have to read through such stuff. Mr. Blakey may be a very good angler, but he evidently knows nothing of poetry; and skilled as he may be in the matter of "gentles," he has no idea how to amuse the "gentle reader."

The Fortress of Coburg-[Die Veste Koburg]. By F. Hofman. (Hildburghausen, Kettelring; London, Nutt.)—This poem is one of several works, in which the author-who, be it observed, for the prevention of mistakes, spells his name with one "f,"—celebrates the glories of Coburg. Doubtless with the castle in full view, and with a guide to set forth the legends connected with it, this little book, which pursues in verse the history of the its dark beginnings, is pleasant edifice, from enough; but the stories are too vaguely told to answer the purpose of an ordinary book of legends, while the notes are insufficient to supply the requirements of the English reader.

Sir John Franklin and the Attempts made for his Recovery—[Sir John Franklin, die Unternehmungen für seine Rettung, &c.]. By Dr. Karl Brandes. (Berlin, Nicolai; London, Nutt.)—Availing himself of parliamentary papers, records of travel, and other accessible sources of information, Dr. Karl Brandes, Custos of the Royal Library at Berlin, has reduced into a continuous history the adventurous episodes of Arctic investigation, beginning with the expedition of Capt. Ross in 1818, and ending with the latest searches for Sir John Franklin. The volume cited above was published in 1854, when some of the more recent incidents were yet unknown,-but an Appendix has since been added in the shape of an article, published this year in the Zeitschrift für allgemeine Erdkunde. A Table of the average temperature of the various places in the Arctic regions, by Dr. Dove, and a

tinted Map of the Arctic Archipelago, by Herr H. Lange, complete the work.

Atlas of Skeleton Charts, for the Direction and Force of Winds and Currents, and other Phenomena, in the Arabian Sea, the Red Sea, the Persian Gulf, and Bay of Bengal. By A. K. Johnston. With a Preliminary Notice, by Dr. Buist. (Johnston & Co.)—This is a useful publication, and if the compiler's objects be carried out great advantages will accrue to navigation in the Indian seas. Captains of ships are invited to enter their marine meteorological observations in copies of skeleton maps, which will be furnished to them, by which means it is expected that very valuable and perfect charts may be eventually prepared, showing the meteorological phenomena prevalent at various seasons of the year in the Indian seas. The inter-ests involved are very great. According to an estimate made some years ago, it appears that the value of the goods imported into, and exported from, Calcutta, Madras, and Bombay alone amounts annually to upwards of 2,250,000l. It has been shown that Lieut. Maury's charts and sailing directions have shortened the voyages of American ships by about a third. Thus, if the voyage to and from India were shortened by no more than a tenth it would secure a saving in freightage alone

of 250,000l. annually.
Students of the New Testament will find in The Epistles of St. Paul to the Corinthians, by A. P. Stanley, Canon of Canterbury, a very elaborate criticism of the Apostle's doctrine and exhortation, as contained in the two "historical epistles." In certain aspects of his style, says Mr. Stanley, St. Paul resembled Thucydides and Oliver Crom well .- Job: a Course of Lectures, by J. E. Kempe, is another commentary on the Bible, illustrated by texts and references.—On points of controversy several treatises, of more than usual solidity, have The most prominent is that of Dr. appeared. Pusey,- The Doctrine of the Real Presence Vindicated. The writer follows his theory through the works of the Fathers, from the death of the Evangelist to the fourth General Council, and cites an imposing series of authorities .- A subject even more mysterious is developed in The Philo sophy of the Fall, and its Remedy, by E. C. Topham, which, however, is little more than an amplification of the Book of Genesis, combined with passages from other sections of Scripture. -The Philosophy of the Cross; or, Christ as Man. by H. Cooper, is another attempt to explain the spirit and purpose of Sacred History, though its author disavows any pretence of mathematical demonstration.—In Creation's Testimony to its God; or, the Accord of Science, Philosophy and Revelation, Mr. T. Ragg describes himself as a poet, who occasionally forsakes ratiocination to address his reader's heart, though it must be said that his sentiment only serves for the peroration after each practical chapter. In the "Hymn," composed in psalmic measure, there are evidences of a glowing imagination and of much earnest self-culture (for Mr. Ragg is a labour-poet).—On applied religion, we have Mr. J. J. Tayler's Christian Aspects of Faith and Duty, of which the title is sufficiently explanatory,—Mr. Rowland Williams's Rational Godliness after the Mind of Christ, setting forth the original objects of Christianity, as related to human necessities and to social life,—and Sermons, Preached at Trinity Chapel, Brighton, by F. W. Robertson, on 'The Parables of the New, and the Incidents of the Old Testament.'—The Rev. J. Cumming has added to his works—which already need a separate catalogue—Sabbath Evening Read ings on the New Testament—St. John. In these he makes no "pretence to originality," but offers simple instruction to the young.—Religious readers will comprehend from their titles the nature of the following sermons :- Do all to the Lord Jesus, by Dr. Pussey,—Peace, the Gift and Injunction of Our Holy Redeemer, by E. Kell,—Spiritual Progress, by C. H. Curteis,—and War, its Evils and Dutics, by the Bishop of Lincoln.—National Daily Prayer is a tract, made up of extracts from the Liturgy, and Considerations on the Presence of Non-Com municants at the Holy Communion, of quotations and arguments against an innovating practice of the English Church.-Mr. Henry Drummond, in

The Future Destinies of the Celestial Bodies, discusses some interesting problems, and maintains the theory, that a plurality of worlds is a necessary result of the principle of development, which he traces in creation.

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THE LITERARY FUND.

OUR readers will have seen in the daily papers very full reports of proceedings at the meeting on the 16th, called for the purpose of taking into con-sideration the Report of the Sub-Committee appointed at the last General Meeting, - and will have learnt that the Report was rejected.

Mr. M. Milnes, a member of the Committee, moved the following amendment: - "That this meeting acknowledges with gratitude the labours of the Special Committee appointed to consider and report on the question of a new charter for the Literary Fund, and recognizes the value of some of their suggestions as subjects of future deliberation; but, considering that the proposals therein contained involve an entire alteration of the nature and interest of the Society, and that its means are inadequate to the attainment of those purposes, this meeting is not prepared to recommend the application for a new charter to effect those objects." Mr. Milnes stated, that "the proposed changes in the constitution of the Society he conceived to be three. The first was, that the Society should not, as it now does, grant a considerable sum of money to the applicant; but should distribute the amount in small sums over a period of years in the shape of an annuity. The second point he took to be, that instead of giving sums absolutely, they should be con-sidered as loans, made under certain conditions, and ultimately to be restored; and the third, which was perhaps the main one, was that the Society should cease to be a purely charitable asso-

ciation, and become a literary sodality."

A simple reference to the Report itself, which we have already published [ante, p. 675], will show that two out of the three changes to which Mr. Milnes referred, and on which he based his arguments and objections, are misconceptions of his The Sub-Committee did not recommend either that annuities or loans should be substituted for grants, but that the powers of the Committee (under a new charter) should not, as heretofore, be restricted to grants, but should extend to making loans, and, under especial circumstances and with especial precautions, to granting annuities. Mr. Milnes said there was nothing, under the present regulation, "to prevent an application being renewed annually." Quite true; and the Sub-Committee knew perfectly well, some of them having served on and others being now members of the Committee, that applications are made annually, and that occasionally, parties are relieved annually. The difference is one of feeling rather than of fact; but we cannot think that delicacy and feeling are altogether unworthy of consideration, especially with a Committee that offers its delicacy as a justification of its secrecy, and its secrecy as an apology for its irresponsibility. What is the advantage, as Sir E. B. Lytton asked, when 55

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you acknowledge men to be entitled to relief, of compelling them year after year to expose their rags, to open their wounds, and to reiterate their cry of Date obolum Belisario? As to the argument which is founded on the presumed insecurity of loans, the worst that could occur would be, that if the borrower could not repay the sum advanced,

the loan would become a gift.

Mr. Pollock, who seconded Mr. Milnes's amend-ment, argued as Mr. Serjeant Merewether had done; and as the Opinion of that learned gentleman is formally set forth, legal fashion, in an Appendix to the published Report, and was reproduced under a variety of forms during the discussion, it may be well to quote his words.—"From the early history of the institution," says the learned Ser-jeant, "it is clear that the principle on which it was founded was, 'to administer assistance to authors of genius and learning reduced to distress.' * The Charter of 1818, in conformity with the intentions of the original founders, expressly describes the Society as formed for that purpose." No doubt it was formed for that purpose; but the question is, whether it was formed for that sole purpose. The founders were plain, earnest, prac-tical men, who did not waste their energies in grasping at impossibilities; they did not attempt to accomplish all their objects at once. But that Mr. Serjeant Merewether was wrong in his readings of "early history" was made manifest in a moment by reference to the very first advertisement issued, which was repeated in substance two years later, and which called on the public for sub-scriptions, to enable the projectors "to provide for the wants of sickness and age, and for the decent termination of life." The intentions of the founders, therefore, must have been, not only to grant temporary relief, but in one form or another to grant annuities. In fact, if the learned Ser-jeant had read the "early history" with becoming attention, he would have known that all that was then done or attempted was but a step towards the foundation of an institution which the benevolent founder hoped and believed would ultimately become a centre of communication and action for the literary men of all nations, where the pros-perous would be welcomed and the suffering relieved. We will add, that the Report of the Sub-Committee was written with the same views and in the same large and liberal spirit. But Serjeant Merewether's blunders were so astounding, that we should scarcely have noticed them, had they not been repeated by members of the Committee. Thus he stated, that "whilst the claims of so many applicants are unsatisfied, the corporation cannot be justified in diverting any of the funds for any other purpose." We go further, and say that while the claims of any one applicant remains unsatisfied, not a single shilling is available for any other purpose. But is it a fact that able for any other purpose. But is it a fact that the claims of many applicants remain unsatisfied from want of funds? Mr. Pollock, a member of the Committee, says yes;—"lamentably insufficient." If this were true, what could be the justification of the Committee for wasting 500l. a year in doing nothing, and why have they gone on investing recognition. investing money in the Funds until their accumulations, apart from their real property, has reached 30,000*l*.? But it is not true,—it is a mere mistake. Speaking from memory, we are of opinion that in no one of the last ten or twelve years has the relief granted to applicants ever reached two-thirds of the income of the Society, and it has on occasions fallen below one-half. The strength of the Committee, however, was not in fact but in fiction, and its triumph was the speech of the

Bishop of Oxford. The Sub-Committee having determined how the Society could best, and with the least violence to existing forms and feelings, obtain some reasonable control over the Committee, without injuriously restricting its freedom of action, next considered how to turn the present "enormous expenditure" to beneficial use. The reader must remember that the Sub-Committee were not at liberty to propose a reduction of expenditure. For their own guidance on this point, the Sub-Committee turned naturally to the "early history" of the Society— not Serjeant Merewether's edition—and they pro-

posed that certain of the great empty rooms of the Society should serve as a place of meeting for its members, from 11 o'clock in the forenoon to 3 o'clock in the afternoon, and that a new class of members should be elected by the Committee on proof of their being literary or scientific writers; and that evening meetings or conversationi should be occasionally held,—the small expense of these evening meetings being defrayed by such members as chose to attend. The reader will find all par-

ticulars in the Report.

The expenditure of the Committee is now about 600%. a year. Out of this 600%, fully 400% is expended on a Secretary who can have little to do, and would have nothing to do if the honorary officers did their duty,—and on apartments only occupied for a few hours on a very few days in the The Sub-Committee thought this expenditure might be made of some use to literary men by a very trifling addition,—certainly not adding 100% to the present 600%. Here, however, in this union of literary men, was "the detested blot," to which the Bishop of Oxford directed especial attention. He assured the meeting that the "social cup of tea"—the "dish of Souchong," common at such conversacioni—would not do:—Societies "starved on tea and flourished upon dinners." Be it so; then no possible expense or inconvenience could result no possible expense or inconvenience could result from trying the "Souchong"; although, on his own "flourishing" principle, his Lordship ought, for consistency, to have moved that dinners should be included. But his own casual reference to dinners carried him in imagination "transverse" to the Athenæum Club and the London Tavern. What did literary men want with rooms and Souchong, when there was the Athenæum Club already established for their especial use ?- which, as Mr. Dickens observed, was quite true, if they could but afford to pay down some thirty guineas and wait some five or seven years for admission. In brief, while the Sub-Committee had been dreaming of the Barmecide's feast, the Bishop was thinking of the after feast that rewarded the poor Barmecide for his long fasting. But if the "Souchong" societies find it difficult to get members who are able and willing to pay entrance fee and subscription, it does not necessarily follow that societies would have like difficulties which did not ask for either. After all, be it remembered, even the "Souchong" societies starve on—and some of them have starved on for nearly 200 years. We believe that not one man of science in a hundred, foreigner or Englishman, comes to London as a stranger, but that his first visit, if possible, is to one or other of these societies—the one, of course, in whose especial pursuits he is most interested, and with whose members, therefore, he can most profitably and pleasantly associate. Now, why should not literary men-men whose pleasure or whose profession is letters-why should not they have their central place of meeting, where even a stranger, being a registered Fellow, would be sure of recog-nition and welcome? It strikes us that many a young literary adventurer from the provinces many a man of learning and genius from abroad might there find aid or counsel, of value beyond price—even beyond the value of the Bishop's dinner at the Athenæum. It strikes us as possible that

The marvellous boy who perish'd in his pride might not have perished in the dreary isolation of his wretched garret had such an institution as the Founder and the Sub-Committee contemplated been then in existence—had he once grasped the hand of such a man as David Williams and renand of such a man as David windows and re-ceived his affectionate counsel, illustrated and strengthened by his own life of literary struggle. It strikes us that even Châteaubriand, when he came here an exile in utter poverty, might have had his heart gladdened by the instant recognition of his genius, even though the genius that welcomed him had nothing to offer but sympathy and suggestion, not even souchong. Nor can we believe that it would have lengthened the weary hours when Johnson and Savage tramped together a whole night, round and round the very Square where the Fund now has its home, had they known that in that corner house there were friendly hands to welcome them in the morning, and friendly voices to say "God help you!" Illus-

trations of a like character crowd on our memory; but we have said enough by way of indication, and all who know anything of literary history can find examples for themselves. Do not let the reader waste his sympathy on barren regrets. Such men are amongst us and around us now and ever, though my Lord Bishop knows them not—though the poet Member knows them not;—and, strange contradiction in sense and sentiment, those who know them not are considered the right persons to legislate for them, and have a voice potential, and for its little hour conclusive, in their affairs.

Here we would willingly conclude all reference to the past; but some misapprehensions have got abroad, to which we think it necessary to refer. Both the Bishop and Mr. Milnes adverted to the Guild of Literature,—and Mr. Milnes hinted that the Guild had failed of its objects, and seemed to assume that the Report embodied the feelings and wishes of the projectors, who were, in conse-quence of that failure, anxious to engraft the special objects of the Guild on the more prosperous Fund. Sir E. B. Lytton replied, that so far were the members of the Guild from wishing in any way to benefit by the Fund, that it was the intention of those members of the Guild who acted with him to present to the Fund the money which they had collected, if the recommendations of the Sub-Committee were adopted. Thereupon, a discussion arose as to whether the Fund could, or would, grant loans and annuities. The Bishop set Serjeant Merewether at defiance, and maintained that the power was clearly within the charter—in which we agree with him. Mr. Milnes said that his amendment left the power and the policy of granting loans and annuities an open question. Then followed some sharp questioning by Mr. Foster as to whether the Committee would do it, which subsided on the assurance of the Chairman that the propositions should meet with "the most serious attention" of the Committee. The result was a vague impression amongst the members that some sort of compromise had taken place; and that it only remained for the Committee formally to acquiesce, when the Guild would hand over its treasures. Under this confused impression the vote was taken :-- and the votelike other votes adopted under compromise-we venture to say, did not accurately define the feeling

of the meeting.

On the subject of this confusion and its results, we will make two brief remarks. There may be, for anything we know to the contrary—we believe there is—a power in the Guild to grant loans and annuities; there was also a recommendation of like effect in the Report of the Sub-Committee—"salmons in both." The connexion between them we deny. The recommendations in the Report rest on their own reasons. We assert, that there is not a single recommendation in the Report that has not its warrant in the declared intentions or ascertained hopes of the founder of the Literary

In the second place, Sir E. B. Lytton stated what was the intention of his friends if "the recommendations of the Sub-Committee were adopted." They were not adopted. Is it possible, under these circumstances, that Sir E. B. Lytton, Mr. Dickens, and Mr. Foster could consent to transfer more money -trust-moneys held under an Act of Parliament-to irresponsible men, and to a Society whose constitution they had within these three months de-nounced as "utterly absurd,"—to men whose expenses of management they had declared to be "unreasonable and enormous"?

A word now as to the future. The fundamental questions at issue were—and are—economy and control. This was distinctly asserted at the General Meeting,—by a minority, indeed, but a minority of twenty-eight against thirty-two,—all the officers of the Society voting against it. This fact sufficiently indicates within what limits there is a reasonable probability of success. reasonable probability of success. We, therefore, recommend that a motion to the same effect be recommend that a motion to the same effect be made at the next annual meeting, or that a special meeting be called to take it into immediate consideration. It might be well to repeat the exact words of the former resolution [see ante, p. 321], with some such addition as the following:

"That, whereas the annual receipts of the Lite-

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rary Fund Society have for many years greatly exceeded the amount of relief granted to writers in distress, and that, as it is possessed of funded property to the amount of (in round numbers) 30,000l., -is possessed, moreover, of landed estate yielding 2001. per annum, -and is also supported by royal patronage, - any further appeal to the public for pecuniary support is wholly unjustifiable.

OUR WEEKLY GOSSIP.

Sir Roderick Murchison holds his second scientific soirée for the season, at his residence in Bel-grave Square, this (Saturday) evening. We catch a report—which we trust is not true—

that Sir George Grey means to defer the appointment of any one to the Chair of Natural History at Edinburgh till November, in the expectation of some man of greater eminence as a naturalist than any of the present candidates coming forward. Does he suppose that great naturalists will spring up at the stamp of his foot, or can grow, like weeds, in a single summer? The delay, even now sufficiently injurious, would then be disastrous. would be alike unjust to the students and the Professor appointed, who would thus have to rush at once into a hasty, unprepared, and therefore imperfect, course of lectures:—in other words, would have, during the ensuing nine months, to prepare the substance of several large books, at the rate of two or three chapters a day for five days in the Should the Professor appointed be one who now holds any professorship or similar appoint-ment, it would be most unjust to the body who would have hastily to supply his place by a man who must necessarily be equally unprepared for his new duties. It is most unjust and injurious to the present candidates, who will thus be kept dangling for a whole summer on the tenter-hooks of expectation, unknowing whether they are to prepare for new work or steadily to settle back to their old. Professors of Natural History are not to be made at a moment's warning.

Sir George Rose, the diplomatist and editor of the 'Marchmont Papers,' died on Sunday last, at

his residence, Christchurch, Hants.

We really cannot oblige M. Cabany by printing any more of his letters—even under the terrible reprisal which he threatens. Enough if we give the last point which he raises in his own favour. He now tells us that several passages of the 'Moredun' MS. are written on the margin; and are apparently of a later date. Such, he says, is the "Granger" paragraph!!

A book like the 'Life of Sydney Smith' can

hardly appear without its running commentary of minute criticism and correction. We have accordingly received the usual number of errata, hints, and communications: some of which, it may be as well to record in aid of Lady Holland, against the day when her second edition will be prepared. An historical reader of the Athenœum points out that there must be some looseness of chronology in her statement of Sydney Smith's pedigree .-

statement of Sydney Smith's pedigree,—

"It is stated [writes he] in Sydney Smith's 'Memoirs' that his maternal grandfather, M. Oller (qu. D'Oller), was driven to England by the revocation of the Edict of Nantes. This is impossible. The date of that notorious act is 1685:—had the refugee been an infant in that year, he must have been eighty when his daughter married, or thereabouts. But M. Olier, it is plain, was of mature age before he left France; since it is said that he could never learn any other language but French. It is needless to observe, that the effects of the Edict on French Protestants were exhausted at the time of its promulgation; so that no Frenchman, though Protestant, leaving that country for England in the eighteenth century, can have been forced by it to become an exile. According to the usual count of generations, M. Olier must have been born some years after the commencement of that century, even if his youngest daughter were the child of his old age, from a late marriage, and no longer young when she married Mt. Smith."

—Another Correspondent, whom we know to be

-Another Correspondent, whom we know to be familiar with the world of which he treats, begs us to correct a mistake made by attributing the lively verses which are printed in Vol. I. p. 81. to Miss Berry. The rhymes in question, our friend assures us, were not from the pen of Lord Orford's ward; but were written by Miss Katharine Fanshawe, The reader who may inquire more concerning Miss Fanshawe, is referred to Miss Mitford's 'Notes of a Literary Life' for a lengthened notice of that

accomplished Lady. Those who are indisposed to take so much pains, may be informed that Miss Fanshawe was a woman of family and fortune. an amateur artist of the first class-long before Lady Waterford, Lady Lees, Miss Blake, or Miss Lucette Barker were thought of-commanding a pencil more original, humorous, and correct than the "Lady Di," for whose drawings Horace Wal-pole built a tower at Strawberry Hill. Miss Fanshawe was brilliant in society; and we have proof that besides the playful nonsense, of the parentage of which Lady Holland has deprived her, she could write verse more imaginative :indeed, so little resembling the usual order of "poetry by a Lady of Quality," that another of her productions—the 'Enigma on the Letter H' was during many years attributed to Lord Byron, and has figured in collected editions of the poetry of the Author of 'Childe Harold.'

The death of Prof. Blunt, announced in the Cambridge papers, leaves vacant the Margaret chair

of Divinity in that University.

Oxford has been gay this week. Events, surprises and festivities have followed each other in that pleasant city during the last few days, with even more than the usually joyous jostling of Commemoration-week. On Saturday a literary party gathered at the Council Chamber, to present a Literary and Artistic Testimonial to Mr. Alderman Spiers, in commemoration of the graceful and splendid hospitality which distinguished his mayoralty. On Sunday, all that is distinguished at Oxford-and not a little that is celebrated beyond its walls-assembled in Magdalen and other chapels, and afterwards paraded in the broad walk of Christchurch, On Monday the ducal glories of Blenheim drew a fair proportion of the literary visitors; who returned in the evening to enjoy the humours and excitement of the boat procession on the Isis. A bazaar, a flower show and a soirée at Radcliffe Library filled up Tuesday pleasantly. Next day the meeting in the Theatre to confer the honorary degrees-of which meeting the Poet Laureate was unquestionably hero - the public lunch, and the ceremony of laying the foundation of the New Museum, filled up the measure of excitement, and completed the formal business of the week.

Efforts are being made to bring to a close the long-pending discussion between the Senate and the Graduates of the University of London, relative to the future constitution of the University. A paper has been laid before Sir G. Grey on the part of the Graduates, setting forth the agreement come to in 1854 as to three of the four bases submitted by them to the Senate. The Senate were willing that the Graduates should be incorporated into the University, and should meet in Convoca-tion, with the right to express an opinion, which, however, was not to have legal force except in relation to a new charter. The Graduates further asked for the right to nominate a portion of the Senate; and here the negotiation broke off. It appears by the paper now submitted, that the two parties really differed in essentials; the Senate only intending to concede a "titular honour," while the Graduates deired a "real and constitutional influence." It appears, too, that the law officers of the Crown have advised that the proposal of the Senate is inadmissible : it being " pugnant to the nature of a corporation to vest the whole authority in the Senate, leaving to the Graduates the name only, but none of the ordinary functions of corporators." The Graduates now point out that this legal difficulty has solely arisen from the refusal of the Senate in respect of the fourth point, and renew their claim to its consion.

One of the Burnett Prize Treatises, 'On the Proofs of the Being of a God,' has been published. It is the one written by Principal Tulloch, of St. Andrews, to which the second prize of 600l. was awarded. It is of course a book of merit-for a prize essay. This is quite as much as we can say in its favour. The work by Mr. Thompson, which obtained the prize of 1,800l., will be shortly published; and on its appearance we may notice the two works together.

An Irish Archeologist writes—"In the notice

of the Ulster Journal of Archaeology, in the Athenœum of the 16th instant, you very properly point out some improvements which may be made in it, and correct one or two errors, which, as you say, have escaped the Editor's vigilance. If you allow me, I will now correct a slip of the pen in your notice. Dr. Petrie, whom I met on my way home this evening, 'hale and healthy looking,' is mentioned in your notice as 'the late Mr. Petrie.'"

Flower shows have been the fashion of the week in many parts of the country as well as in London. On Monday last, a most unfavourable day, the Exhibition of American Plants was held at the Botanic Gardens in Regent's Park. On Wednesday, under a sunny sky, the June gathering of the Horticultural Society took place at Chiswick. A late summer, and continued cold winds, had told unfavourably on the vegetation. The roses were still in bud, and the lilacs and laburnums had prematurely perished. But the rhododendrons were in great force, and in some other respects the Gardens were in high beauty.

Letters from New York state that the Arctic Expedition in search of Lieut. Kane sailed on the 3rd of this month. The Expedition will proceed up Baffin's Bay, visiting the most prominent head-lands, in order to look for traces of Lieut. Kane and his party.-We may take this occasion to state, that at the late conversazione in the Royal Society's apartments, Capt. Collinson exhibited some articles which are supposed to have belonged to the Franklin Expedition. They consist of part of a door-frame, with a catch for a latch, on which the Admiralty broad arrow is stamped. A piece of iron, which may have formed part of the steam machinery of the Erebus and Terror. This had been used by the natives as a hatchet. A piece of copper, with the broad arrow, also used by the natives as a hatchet. These articles were found in Victoria Strait, in the course of Capt. Collisson's

The De Rothesay Collection, which has been dispersed under the hammer of Messrs. Sotheby & Wilkinson, contained a number of curious worksespecially in Portuguese and Spanish literature. Some of the chief lots, with the prices realized, we subjoin:—Baron de Breteuil (Introducteur des Ambassadeurs), ses Mémoires, detailing the whole of the Earl of Shrewsbury's Embassy, when Prior, the poet, acted as his secretary, and assigning as the true reason of its failure, that his Lordship and his secretary took umbrage at the Duchess of St. Simon neglecting to welcome the former with a kiss, as she had done his predecessor, 81.,tissier François, the Elzevir Cookery of 1655, nearly all the copies of which must have been used up in our ancestors' kitchens, 6l. 10s.,—the Official Manuscripts of the Marquis de Pombal, chiefly addressed to him while ambassador in London and Vienna, 35l. 14s.,—Chronica de los Reyes Godos y de España, MS. of the 16th century, on paper, 16l. 15s.,—Chroniques de Normandie, MS. of the 14th century, on vellum, 16l.,—Chroniques d'Angleterre, MS. of the 15th century, on paper, 10l.15s.,—Chronique Scandaleuse, printed in black letter, 251., - Damiens, a complete collection of the revier, 201.,—Damiens, a complete collection of the various papers relating to this celebrated criminal, 10l. 10s., bought by Mr. Milnes, M.P.,—Decor Puellarum, printed by Jenson in 1471, although falsely dated 1461, an exquisite specimen of bookbinding, 79l. 10s.,—Discipline Militaire, MS., on rellume with saves with the second control of the contr vellum, with seven miniatures, and having the autograph "Charles Prince of Wales," 181.,—Dante Comedia, with commentary in Italian by the author's son, MS. of the 14th century, on vellum, 1271. 1s., -De Bry Collectio, Peregrinationum, 25 parts in 11 vols., all first editions, 250l., bought for America, -Flacei Illyrici Missa Latina, a very small but famous work, printed in 1557, showing what the original Mass was in the year 700 after Christ, 10l. 15s.,—Hooke's Negociations for the Pretender, original MS., 10l. 10s.,—Hull on Tugboats, 1737, the earliest printed treatise on the subject, 8l. 12s.,—India, a collection of papers relating to the Portuguese possessions, probably made for the Marquis de Pombal, when he contemplated throwing open the trade thereto, 41l. 10s.,—Inquisition, a curious and important collection of MS. and

printed papers, containing the lists of the victims at the various Autos da Fé, including priests, nuns (one described as muy hermosa Monja), learned men, nobles, &c., punished for heresy, Judaism, sorcery, compact with the devil, and other imaginary and the second se soreery, compact with the devil, and other maginary crimes, 18l.,—Johnson's Dictionary, with numerous MS. additions by Edmund Burke, 8l. 10s.,—Mirouer Historial, a magnificent MS. on vellum, written in 1459-63 by Gilles Gracien, and profusely illuminated, 535l. 10s.,—Petit Justification du Duc de Bourgogne, the celebrated defence made for Jean Sans Peur Duke of Burrandr, when he held conved the Duke of Orleans. defence made for Jean Sans Peur Duke of Burgundy, when he had caused the Duke of Orleans to be assasinated, MS. on vellum, 33l.,—Officium B. Virginis Mariæ, a very small MS. on vellum, with four exquisite miniatures, by Giulio Clovio, 115l. 10s.,—Cortes do Reyno de Portugal, MS., 39l.,—Rabelais, Œuvres, 2 vols., the Elzevir edition, 11l.,—Rabelais, Vie de Gargantua, Lyon, 1537, 12l., 5s.,—Sachs, a collection of small poems, by the witty Hans Sachs, in 1 vol., 12l.,—Shakespeare's Plays, third edition, 1664, 50l.,—Voltaire's Pucelle, translated by a Lady, 2 vols., rigidly suppressed by the family, 11l. 11s.,—Acuna, Nuevo Descubrimiento del Gran Rio de las Amazonas, Madrid, 1641, a pamphlet of a few leaves, but ex-Madrid, 1641, a pamphlet of a few leaves, but ex-tremely rare, having been rigidly suppressed to prevent the Portuguese from deriving any advan-tage from its perusal when they revolted and wrested Brazils and the colony of Para from Spanish dominion, 101.,—Arauso, Vida de La Monja, Al-ferez, a nun, who for twenty years served as a soldier and obtained a commission as Alferez (Ensign), 51. 15s.,—Brazil, a collection of all the documents relating to Brazil from its discovery to 1757, in 26 vols., MS., made, probably, for the Marquis de Pombal, 69\lambda, secured for America instead of our national library.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF ARTS, Trafalgar Square.—The EX-HIBITION of the ROYAL ACADEMY IS NOW OPEN.— —Admission (from Eight to Seven o'clock), 1s.; Catalogue, 1s. JOHN PRESCOTT KNIGHT, R.A. Secretary.

SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER-COLOURS.—The FIFTY-FIRST ANNUAL EXHIBITION IS NOW OPEN, at their Gallery, 5, Pall Mail East, close to Trafaigar Square, from Nine till dusk.—Admittance, laz. Catalogue, 64.

JOSEPH J. JENKINS, Secretary.

BRITISH INSTITUTION, Mall Pall.—The Gallery, with a COLLECTION of PICTURES by ANCIENT MASTERS and deceased BRITISH ARTHSTS, 18 OPEN DALLY, from Ten to Six.—Admission, is.; Catalogue, GEORGE NICOL, Secretary.

GALLERY OF GERMAN ARTISTS.—The THIRD ANNUAL EXHIBITION of the WORKS of MODERN GERMAN ARTISTS, is NOW OPEN daily, from 10 till d.—Admission, 1s, Catalogues, 6d.—Gallery, 168, New Bond Street, next door to the Clarendon.

The SECOND ANNUAL EXHIBITION of the FRENCH SCHOOL of the FINE ARTS is NOW OPEN daily, from 10 to 6 o'clock, at the Gallery, 121, Pall Mall, opposite the Opera Colonada.—Admission, 18; Catalogue, 6d.

WIDOWS and ORPHANS of BRITISH OFFICERS who fell in the WAR with BUSSIA.—The EXHIBITION of the ROYAL DRAWINGS and upwards of 1,800 Works of Art, by Amsteurs and others, in aid of the Fund for the relief of Art, by Amsteurs and others, in aid of the Fund for the relief of Art, by Amsteurs in 1510 More of the Courty's property, it NOW OPEN as BURLING OF SIGN HOUSE, Piccadilly.—Admittance, is.—All the Works we for Side 1.

CHALON EXHIBITION, SOCIETY OF ARTS.— This Collection of the Paintings, Drawings, and Sketches of the late JOHN CHALON, Esq., k.A., with a selection from the Works of ALFRED E. CHALON, Esq., R.A., is NOW OPEN, at the Society's House, Adelphi.—Admission, 1

PHOTOGRAPHIC EXHIBITION.—An Exhibition of the finest English, French and Italian Photographs IS NOW OPEN at the PHOTOGRAPHIC INSTITUTION, 168, New Bond Street.—Open from 10 to 5. Admission, with Catalogue, 12.

THE BATTLE OF THE ALMA.—NOW OPEN, from 10 until 6, at the Egyptian Hall, Piccadilly, the GREAT PICTURE of this important Military Event, Painted by Mr. Coomans, from studies made during four months spent in the Crimea during the Present war. Admission, 18.

ADAM AND EVE.—This great original Work, by JOSEPH VAN LERIUS, is NOW ON VIEW at 57, Pall Mall, opposite Marlborough House, from 11 to 6 daily.—Admission, 1s.

ROYAL GALLERY OF ILLUSTRATION, 14. Regent Street.
Additional Pictures.—English Mortay Battery, the Mamelon and
Royal Street.
Additional of Portification, are now added to the Diorama. "The
Events of the War." The Lecture by Mr. Stocqueler. Daily at 3
and 8.—Admission, 18., 32. and 38.

ST. MARTIN'S HALL, Long Acre.—Grand PANORAMA of CREATION, SCIENCE, and CIVILIZATION, WILL BE OPENED, for a short time only, on MONDAY NEXT, developing a plan of PRACTICAL EDUCATION for the MILLIONS, and NEW HOMES for the PEOPLE. Daily at 3 and 8, Monday Mornings only excepted; doors open half-an-hour previous.—Admission, 1s. Reserved Seats, 2s. 1 Stalls, 3s. Children, Half-price.—MONDAYS, HALF-PRICE for all parts.

LONDON SEASON BY DAY.—On Saturday, at 3 o'clock, Mr. LOYE will present, for the second time, his NEW ENTER-TAINMENT, called "THE LONDON SEASON, by day.—LOYE'S ENTERTAINMENTS.—VENTRILOQUISM EXTRAORDINARY.—REGENT GALLERY, 60; Quadrant, Regent Street.—Mr. Love will appear every Evening at 8, except Saturday; day Morning at 3, Mr. Love, universally accepted as the first Dramatic Ventriloquist in Europe, will present his NEW ENTERTAINMENT, called THE LONDON SEASON. Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, the Entertainment, LOYE IN ALL STANDENT, SALES AND SEASON. SEASON SEASON SEASON. SEASON SEAS

ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.—LAST WEEK of SINDBAD THE SALLOR, which will be shown every Morning and Strings. The sallor of the shown every Morning and Strings. The sallor of the sall

SCIENTIFIC

ROYAL.—June 14.—Lord Wrottesley, President, in the chair.—The following papers were read:—
'Remarks on the Rev. H. Moseley's Theory of the Descent of Glaciers,' by Prof. J. D. Forbes.—
'Researches on the Foraminifera,' by Dr. Caracteristics.

ASTRONOMICAL. — May 11. — M. J. Johnson, Esq., President, in the chair. —Rev. F. Silver was elected a Fellow.—'On the Measured Distance of 70 Ophiuchi,' by the Rev. W. R. Dawes.—'Observation of an Occultation of Venus by the Moon,' by Mr. J. Ferguson.- 'Account of the Operations by Mr. J. Ferguson.—Account of the Operatons for determining the Longitude of Fredericton, New Brunswick, by Galvanic Signals, extracted from a Report to the Lieutenant-Governor.—Elements of Leucothea, by M. Bruhns.—Note relative to a Phenomenon seen in the Planet Venus, by the Rev. W. R. Dawes.— Extract from a Paper by Eyre B. Powell, Esq. on the Orbit of a Centauri.'

-'On several Stars which have disappeared from his Ecliptical Charts,' by M. Chacornac.

GEOLOGICAL.—May 30.—W. J. Hamilton, Esq. President, in the chair.—The Rev. Mr. Knowles and Mr. J. M'Cann, were elected Fellows.—The following communication was read :- 'On the probable Extension of the Coal Measures beneath the South-Eastern parts of England,' by R. Godwin

Austen, Esq.

June 13.—W. J. Hamilton, Esq., President, in the chair.—Dr. C. F. Naumann, of Leipsic, was elected a Foreign Member; Dr. G. D. Gibb was elected a Fellow.—The following communications were read:—'On the Rock Specimens, Organic Remains, and Fossil Wood, collected in the Arctic Archipelago by Capt. M'Clure and Lieut. Pim, by Sir R. I. Murchison.—'On the Remains of Dixynodon tigriceps from South Africa,' by Prof. Owen.—'On a fossil Sirenoid Mamual from Ja-Owen.—'On a fossil Strenott Mamma from Mamaica,' by Prof. Owen.—'On the Earthquakes at Brussa,' by Mr. Consul Sandison.—After the lapse of six weeks from the first great shock, and its succeeding lesser tremors, a far more severe shock occurred on the 11th of April, at 8 P.M. The check which lested thirty seconds and was sucshock, which lasted thirty seconds, and was succeeded throughout the night by incessant and ceeded throughout the night by incessant and alarming shakings, together with an awful conflagration, has totally destroyed the city. Several neighbouring villages also suffered severely. The earthquake appears to have spent its shocks immediately under Brussa and the country within a radius of about two leagues from that centre. This earthquake was acceptable by the extraction. earthquake was accompanied by the outbursts of new springs of hot water at the sites of the hot new springs of hot water at the sites of the hot mineral baths; and the former streams have been greatly increased in volume.—'On the Section of the Old Red Sandstone and Crystalline Rocks at the Eastern Extremity of the Grampians,' by Prof. J. Nicol.—'Notice of some raised Beaches in Argyllshire,' by Capt. E. J. Bedford, R.N.—'On Sandworn Granite near the Land's End, Cornwall,' by Mr. R. W. Fox.—'On the Brown Coal Forma-tion of North Germany,' by Prof. Beyrich, with Observations by Mr. Hamilton.—In a letter to Mr. Hamilton, Prof. Beyrich pointed out that in-

stead of there being two brown coal formations in North Germany, as stated in the President's Address for 1855, on a misconception of M. Plattner's observations on the subject, there is but one.—'On the Umret and other Coal Fields of India,' by the Rev. Messrs. Hislop and Hunter.—'On some Fossil Seeds from Lewisham,' by Dr. Hooker.—'On some small Fossil Seed-Vessels from Bovey Tracey,' by Dr. Hooker.

ASIATIC.—June 16.—Prof. H. H. Wilson, President, in the chair.—The Secretary read 'Some Notes upon the Zend Language,' by John Romer, Esq., in addition to those already published. Mr. Romer maintained, that the Zend and Pehlevi languages of the Parsi books were mere inventions, and were never spoken languages .- Mr. Bosanquet read a paper on the subject of certain corrections required in the Canon of Ptolemy, in order to bring it into harmony with the eclipse at Jerusalem, in B.C. 689, and the eclipse of Thales, in B.c. 585.

Society of Antiquaries.—June 14.—J. P. Collier, Esq., V.P., in the chair.—The Council's nomination of the Rev. Joseph Hunter to fill the vacant seat in that body was read to the meeting.

—Mr. Josiah Goodwin was elected a Fellow.— The conclusion of Mr. Goodwin's 'Memoir on the British Gun-Trade' was read.—Mr. Wylie com-municated a translation of a communication, made to the Society by the Abbé Cochet, 'On Leaden Crosses,' with the form of absolution, found on the breasts of skeletons, on the site of the ruined Church of Bouteilles, near Dieppe.

ENTOMOLOGICAL.—June 4.—John Curtis, Esq., President, in the chair.—Herr Dohrn, President of the Entomological Society of Stettin, and W. Atkinson, Esq., were elected Members of the Society.—Mr. Stevens exhibited a splendid specimen of the new Ornithoptera Brookiana, recently taken in Borneo by Mr. Wallace.—Mr. Foxcroft sent for exhibition some Coleoptera, just captured in Perthshire, including the rare Dendrophagus crenatus; also a bred specimen of the moth Anarta cordigera.

—The President exhibited some small insects sent —The President exhibited some small insects sent from Ceylon by Mr. Thwaites to Mr. Spence, including a Carabideous beetle, which infests the nests of a small black ant. Mr. Spence presented the insects to the Society.—The President read a note, received from M. Delarouzée, of Paris, announcing the discovery there of the singular beetles Anomatus 12-strictus and Langelandia anoph-thalma, in the wood of an old water-butt.—Read: a note by W. S. M. D'Urban, Esq., on Saturnia eccropia, a species which the author thinks might be introduced from Canada into England with advantage.—A note by Mr. Newman on the Wingrays of Insects, in which the author maintains, in opposition to the published views of Herold, Kirby and Spence, Oken, Westwood, and other distin-guished entomologists, that the wing-rays are the supports of the membranous portion of the wing, and in all respects the analogues, although not the homologues, of the wing-bones of the bat, and that the passage of air, blood and nerves through their channels is simply a provision of Nature for their maintenance in a healthy and efficient condition.

Institution of Civil Engineers,—May 22.— James Simpson, Esq., President, in the chair.— The discussion was renewed on Mr. F. Braith-waite's paper, 'On the Infiltration of Salt Water to the Springs of Wells under London and Liverpool.'-An improved Sliding Rule was exhibited, and explained by Mr. Charles Hoare, by whom the modifications had been devised.—At the ballot, the following candidates were elected:—Messrs. C. E. Amos, as a Member, and Messrs. E. Crosley, R. P. Spice and M. B. Williams, as Associates.

ROYAL INSTITUTION.—April 27.—The Duke of Northumberland, President, in the chair.—'On certain Trains of Erratic Blocks on the Western Borders of Massachusetts, United States,' by Sir Charles Lyell.

Society of Arts.—June 13.—General Meeting.
—Viscount Ebrington, Chairman of Council, in
the chair.—The Annual Report of the Council on

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the close of the One Hundred and First Session was read; and it was announced that the One Hundred and First Anniversary Dinner will be held at the Crystal Palace on Tuesday, the 3rd of July, when the Duke of Argyll will preside.

SYRO-EGYPTIAN .- June 12 .- Dr. W. Camps in the chair .- The Ven. Archdeacon Raymond was elected a member .- A paper was read, 'On the Origin of the Cuneiform Character,' by L. J. Abington, Esq.—The author argued that the peculiar form of the literal character, properly called wedge-shaped, had its origin in a locality to which such a manner of writing was suited rather than any other. It was first used in an alluvial region, where men had "bricks for stone and slime for mortar." The form of the letters indicates the material upon which they were first written. Used upon clay tablets, the same form showed at a glance how the tablet should be placed for reading. Layard has given us an idea of the stamp which was used to produce the characters by impressing them. It is essentially a ceramo-graphic character, and would never have been chosen for petro-graphic work; and it was only by necessity that it became engraven on the gypsum slabs of Assyria and the limestone rocks of Persia.—Dr. Benisch read a paper, in which he critically examined the Hebrew texts referring to the Exodus, and from the passages analyzed arrived at the following conclusions :- 1. The oppression of the Israelites commenced under an invader who came from a foreign country, in all likelihood from or through Pales 2. The Exodus took place in the reign of his grandson. 3. The Pharoah of the Exodus had his grandson. S. The Friaroan of the Exodus had a son, who was fellow king. 4. That son, being the first born, perished at the Exodus. 5. The conquest or subsequent submission of Egypt was gradual, and was at first attended with wars. 6. The conquerors ultimately coalesced with the native population.

MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

MON. Institute of Actuaries, 7.—'On the Results of the Operations of the Gotha Life Assurance Bank for the first
Twenty-five Years, particularly as regards the Mortality
Geographical, 54.—'On the Geographical Results of his late
Researches in the Articl Regions, in H.M.S. Enterprise,
by Capt. Collinson.—'Exploration of the Desert of Atacana, by Dr. Philippi, communicated by Mr. Bollsert.
Wid. Royal Society of Literature, 84.

FINE ARTS

Giotto and his Works in Padua. By John Rus-kin.—Eight Engravings on Wood by Messrs. Dalziel, from Mr. W. Oliver Williams's Drawings from the Frescoes by Giotto in the Chapel of S. M. dell' Arena, at Padua. Part II. Printed for the Arundel Society.

THE present number of this Society's publications embraces short descriptions of several of Giotto's most remarkable works. 'The Salutation,' 'The Nativity,' 'The Wise Men's Offering,' 'The Presentation in the Temple,' 'The Flight into Egypt,'
'The Massacre of the Innocents,' 'The Young Christ in the Temple,' and 'The Baptism of

'The Salutation' is the first of a series of familiar subjects, which enables us to compare Giotto with later masters. The earlier subjects were apocryphal: he now enters a region of reality, and his beings are no longer dream figures or vapoury abstractions. Mr. Ruskin boldly asserts, and we feel no inclination to dispute the point, that in no rendering of 'The Salutation' are the pure depth and plain facts so perfectly given as by Giotto.

The fact is, the scene is scarcely fit for the painter, who can only represent two women meeting at the doorway of a house. We fully agree that the Elizabeth is full of "intense love, and joy, and humbleness," and the Madonna of "tenderness and dignity." and dignity

In Mr. Ruskin's remarks upon 'The Nativity he grows super-subtle, and describes his own feel ings when he thinks he is conveying those of the painter. We do not believe that by the mountain horizon Giotto had any intention of conveying a sense of the exposure and loneliness of the birth or that the hills were a type of the world which was the cradle of the heavenly babe. We cannot,

however, as a balance to our animadversion, resist. quoting a remark of Mr. Ruskin's, which is marked quoting a remark of Mr. Ruskin's, which is marked by his finest vein of poetical shrewdness and acute perception. We have more pleasure in quoting it, because it applies to all early pictures. He is speaking of the way in which Giotto puts on his angels' wings :-

"There is noticeable here, as in all works of this early time, a certain confidence in the way in which the angels trust to their wings, very characteristic of a period of bold and simple conception. Modern science has taught us that and simple conception. Modern science has taught us that a wing cannot be anatomically joined to a shoulder; and in proportion as painters approach more and more to the scientific, as distinguished from the contemplative state of scientific, as distinguished from the contemplative state of mind, they put the wings of their angels on more timidly, and dwell with greater emphasis upon the human form, and with less upon the wings, until these last become a species of decorative appendage,—a mere sign of an angel. But in Giotto's time an angel was a complete creature, as much believed in as a bird; and the way in which it would or might cast itself into the air, and lean hither and thither might cast itself into the air, and lean little and tinitier upon its plumes, was a naturally apprehended as the manner of flight of a chough or a starling. Hence Dante's simple and most exquisite synonym for angel, "Bird of God;" and hence also a variety and picturesqueness in the expression of the movements of the heavenly hierarchies by the earlier painters, ill replaced by the powers of fore-shortening, and throwing naked limbs into fantastic posi-tions, which appear in the cherubic groups of later times."

Of course, we can no more expect a page from Mr. Ruskin without a blow at the Renaissance, than we can a sermon from certain ecclesiastics

without a stroke at the Pope.

Byzantine or anti-Byzantine, Giotto is full of conventionalisms. He introduces the flocks of the Bethlehem shepherds at the foot of the Virgin's bed, and turns the inn into a mysterious chapel. The chief touch of nature-and there is always something to redeem Giotto's barbarism-is the way in which he makes the Virgin turn upon her couch to help the child. It was not till the human mother began to change into the Queen of Heaven that she was represented as exempt from suffering.

'The Wise Men's Offering' Mr. Ruskin himself acknowledges to be the worst of the series. It is full of errors, and has little merit. The camels are monsters, and the kings are puppets:—while an attendant angel receives the gifts. Giotto was a fine observer, and a religious man, but not the possessor of much imagination. The child is struggling to escape from Simeon to the arms of its mother:—a plain fact, which no Byzantine painter would have dared to represent. An awk-ward angel in the background Mr. Ruskin transforms into the Angel of Death, sent to receive the soul of Simeon, (the Angel of Death being, by the bye, a creature of Mohammedan and Rabbinical origin rather than Christian).

The Flight into Egypt' Giotto has treated in a quiet, deliberative spirit. Night is expressed entirely in a symbolic manner,—for the lights glitter and the attendant's dress is dark, but the figures are all seen as at the fullest noon.

'The Massacre of the Innocents' is miserably drawn. The figures are mere types, and the whole scene symbolic. Mr. Ruskin thinks that Giotto thought the scene, in its strange agony, unfit for

brush or pencil.
'The Young Christ in the Temple' is equally poor, though here Giotto was unfettered by prec dent. The touch of nature is the old story of the Madonna stretching her arms to embrace her Son:

no very deep reach of thought.
'The Baptism of Christ' Mr. Ruskin also frankly acknowledges, with much self-denial, to be "gravely and strangely deficient in power of entering into the subject,"—but thinks this failure is a common fatality of all painters. The gesture of Christ has no meaning; the humility of John is unex-pressed; and Giotto has added shores to the wave which half covers our Saviour,-an awkward attempt to unite allegory and perspective. The painter had endeavoured to combine the eastern and western types of the Jordan, for in real Byzantine compositions the river god, with his oars or his reed sceptre, was frequently introduced.
On this subject Mr. Ruskin launches out into

one of his cleverest futilities, and blows a bubble as bright-coloured and evanescent as we have ever known him blow .-

"Now in this mode of representing rivers there is some-thing more than the mere Pagan tradition lingering through the wrecks of the Eastern Empire. A river, in the East-and South, is necessarily recognised more distinctly as a

beneficent power than in the West and North. The narrowest and feeblest stream is felt to have an influence on the life of mankind; and is counted among the possessions, or honoured among the delites, of the people who dwell beside it. Hence the importance given, in the Byzan?ke ossued it. Refice the importance given, in the Syzharac compositions, to the name and speciality of the Jordan stream. In the North such peculiar definiteness and importance can never be attached to the name of any single fountain. Water, in its various forms of streamlet, rain, or river, is felt as an universal gift of beaven, not as an inheritance of a particular spot of earth. Hence, with the neritance or a particular spot of earth. Hence, with the Gothic artists generally, the personality of the Jordan is lost in the green and nameless wave; and the simple rite of the Baptism is dwelt upon, without endeavouring, as Giotto has done, to draw the attention to the rocky shores of Bethabara and Ænon, or to the fact that 'there was much water there.'"

Can one seriously suppose that Giotto—so unimaginative, so essentially Italian—knew or cared anything about the actual Jordan, which he simply borrowed from old forms? Such fantasies as these must eventually lessen the respect which people feel for the works of so gifted and poetical a mind as Mr. Ruskin's.

BRITISH INSTITUTION.

THIS Exhibition opened last week. It contains 165 pictures, of the most miscellaneous and illassorted character. That Italian-Chinese, Zoffany, seems the presiding deity; his chief qualities being hardness, smoothness, clearness, and insipidity. There are by him various pictures of Queen Charlotte and the royal children. His most clever bit of character is Reading the Direction (No. 131); the man with the hare being a fine study for Hogarth or Wilkie, as even Zoffany has thrown some humour into him. - There is also a celebrated Hogarth-The Examination of Bainbridge, the Gaoler, before a Committee of the House of Commons (148)—a very early work of this great master. The portraits, though very true, and in their day renowned, look all alike.-Crowds of the dullest and most conventional pictures jostle out all such humble merit as Wilkie's famous Rabbit on the Wall (137). Sprawling, hot Albanos—such as that caricature, the Triumph of Venus (162), or such tea-board Poussins as The Women of Megara gathering the Ashes of Phocion (82), without nature or life—look poor beside the gem of the room,—Sir J. Reynolds's Misses Horruck (12),—one of the most graceful, lovely faces we have seen; though, like most female faces, none the better for age.—In rivalry of this picture hangs Sir T. Lawrence's Duchess of Devonshire (134).—
After these contrasting styles, look at Rembrandt's Head of a Rabbi (65),—bold and unmannered,—but with his weird light just specking some jewels of the turban.—The lovers of portraiture should then observe Spagnoletto's Portrait of Himself (100), in which body is given, but little of the mind; yet so vigorous that it seems rather modelled than painted.

Several heads, by Velasquez and Vandyke, make this an interesting place of study for lovers of portrait painting. There is Vandyke's Earl of portrait painting. There is Vandyke's Earl of Strafford (18), with the black malignant brow and firm mouth, the very type of ambition and conspiracy; and there is Zucchero's Earl of Essex (79), a man of noble nature, who, like Strafford, ran against an axe. There are also several portraits by Murillo, and one of himself. A portrait by Tintoretto, of himself, completes an interesting collection of grand portraits.—Ostade's Advocate (39) is a good specimen of the master so far as character goes, but not perhaps as to tone.

Among other pictures, we observe:—Boys Fishing (117), by Collins,—and Conway Castle (161), by Turner;—a grand Vandyke—Christ's Charge to Peter (141),—a miserable Saying Grace (148), by Sir W. Allan,—several works by Morland,—Sir T. Lawrence's beautiful Gipsy Girl (114), ill drawn and conventional, yet very graceful,—and a great sketch in chalk, by Raphael, beaming with love, tenderness and religion.—The Dutch masters are represented by Cuyp, Terburgh, Vander Neer, Both, Vander Heyden and Ruysdael. The Italian by Titian, Carracci, Sassoferrato, and S. Rosa.— The *Hawking*, by Wouvermans (63), is a delicious example of the master, and presents a scene full of animation and picturesque life. To effect any good for Art, these pictures should be arranged chronologically, or in schools, and some dozen of 55

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FINE-ART GOSSIF.—We are sorry to hear—for the sake of Leeds itself, its credit and its honour, even more than for the interest of the artists concerned—that nothing has yet been done to rectify the injury sustained by those painters who were good enough to lend their pictures to the Yorkshire sight-seers. The pictures are still, we understand, detained at the railway station; and no one is able to recover his own property until the whole bill for carriage is discharged. Under these circumstances, a Correspondent suggests a meeting of the com-plainants.—"I am one among the many unfor-tunates whose picture is detained in railway bondage after the Leeds Exhibition. I do not presume to tax you with giving advice how I should proceed to recover my property, but if it be in accordance with your feelings, may I ask you to name in your next number that it is suggested by a very humble individual that there should be a meeting of those who are situated like myself, to determine what they should do? A PAINTER."

—We do not see that anything better could be done. If a Committee were named to recover the pictures, it is possible that some gentlemen of Leeds—jealous of the honour of their town—would even now aid in the work, and help to close a very painful transaction.

We are glad to see the Committee of the Archi-

tectural Museum offering prizes for wood-carving

and stone-carving.

A statue of Allan Ramsay is to be erected in Edinburgh, where a memorial to the poetical barber has long been a desideratum. It will stand at the end of a terrace near the head of the mound.

An American has devised an iron wall. It is light and strong, say the American papers, may be easily taken to pieces, and erected with little labour or expense.

labour or expense.

Signor Monti delivered his Fourth Lecture on Wednesday. He began by a review of the Phidian age,—proceeding to a review of the works of Praxiteles and Scopas,—noticing the achievements of the Rhodian and insular schools,—and ending by adverting to the Roman sculptors and the 'Arch of Titus.' In the works of Praxiteles he perceived a growing tendency to materialism, which in the 'Fighting Gladiator' becomes a wonderful anatomical study; and in the Rhodian school—as, for example, in the 'Laocoon'—displays a love for dramatic ostentation, sometimes morbid, and frequently—as in the 'Farnese Hercules'—exaggerated. The Roman works evinced no creative power. The early Græco-Roman works showed Signor Monti delivered his Fourth Lecture on prequenty—as in the 'Farness Hercures'—cang-gerated. The Roman works evinced no creative power. The early Græco-Roman works showed that they were the labour of slaves; but the por-trait-statues of Augustus and of the later Empe-rors indicated a nation growing accustomed to their conquerors, and even grateful for their patronage. The earlier busts, as of Sylla, seemed repulsive; as if the Greek workman had striven to intensify the had passions that dominated in the intensify the bad passions that dominated in the face. The later works showed the total decline of all love for Art, and were literally shapeless and barbaric. In conclusion, Signor Monti delivered a few remarks upon the subject of chromatic sculpture. He expressed it as his strong opinion, that all statues were coloured before Praxiteles, who ventured to produce a nude Venus in public, and left it white to accustom the people to the novelty. According to the authorities, said Signor Monti, the marble was heated, and then waxen colours were rubbed in upon the heated surface, the application being renewed several times. It was, however, his strong conviction that such colour was never allowed to hide the grain or surface of the marble, and only, indeed, toned it. The lecturer then proceeded to remark the correspondence of ancient and modern sculpture in their way of working, as and modern sculpture in their way of working, as to tools, and even as to system. A working sculptor might go from Paris or London and visit Pompeii, and entering there the statuary's shop, take up the tools and be scarcely conscious that he was not in his native shop.

The present day is full of anomalies. A new apartment in the Vatican is hung with tapestry presented to the Pope by the Sultan. What a concatenation!

catenation!

the town.

A valuable collection of sixty modern pictures, the property of Messrs. Lloyd, of Ludgate Hill, who had purchased them for engraving, have been sold by Messrs. Foster. The most conspicuous among them were two pyrotechnic pictures, in Turner's last and worst style—perfect alto-rilievos with paint—and done evidently by a blinded man, working out dreams fretfully by rule of thumb. There are imagination, and colour, and power, in these works, but neither form, shape, outline, nor Nature. These works were the two Academy pictures, 'The Grand Canal at Venice,' and the 'Burning of the Parliament House.' In the latter, the bridge is smoke, and not stone; in the former. the bridge is smoke, and not stone; in the former, the water is like that of a dye vat, and has actually more colour than the objects from which it is supmore colour than the objects from which it is supposed to receive its tincture. Mr. Maclise's 'Spirit of Justice,' unusually hard, dry, and livid, is full of genius. Mr. Frith's works, though uninteresting in subject, were striking from their being painted in a thin, cold manner, so different from his present miniature finish. The 'Child saying its Prayers on its Mother's Lap' surpassed the others,—which were, a 'Housemaid' and a 'Lady Hawking,' the latter with a merry, arch vivacity such as few can throw into a face better than Mr. Frith. few can throw into a face better than Mr. Frith. There were also 'Cromwell and Mrs. Claypole,' and 'Nelson on the Eve of Trafalgar,' by Mr. Lucy. The 'Wood Nymphs,' by Mr. Frost, a beautiful specimen of his style, being warmer and less stony than he now paints. Mr. Ansdell's 'Battle of the Standard' excited much interest. There were also some old-fashioned but honest There were also some old-fashioned but honest landscapes by Müller, and a Spanish figure by Mr. Phillips, vigorous, but rather coarse.

MUSIC AND THE DRAMA

MUSICAL UNION.—H.R.H. PRINCE ALBERT, PATRON.
— TUESDAY, June 24, half-past Three, WILLIS'S ROOMS.—
Quartett, E flat, Op. 50, Spohr; Sonata, Piano and Violin, in P.
Beethoven; Quartett, No. 7, E minor, Op. 29, Beethoven. Solos,
Pianoforte. Artists: Ernst this last performance this Season,
Cooper, Hill. and Piatti. Pianoforte, Mrs. Joseph Robinson (from
Dublin.—Visitors' Tekets to be had of Cramer & Ca; Chappell;
and Ollivler, Bond Street.—The eighth and last Matinée will take
place July 19.

HARMONIC UNION, HANOVER SQUARE ROOMS.— NEXT WEDNESDAY, June 2°, will be performed, for the first time in this country, MOLIQUE'S MASS in F. A selection from Mendeisschus Urgan Sonatas with be perform. Vocalists and Rossini's Stabate. Supplementary of the country of the countr

HEINRICH WERNER begs to announce that he will give his GRAND MORNING CONCERT, at the QUEEN'S CONCERT ROUMS, Hanover Square, on SATURDAY, June 30, assisted by eminent artistes. Further particulars will be duly announced.—Tickets, 76. dc.; Reserved Sesta; 106. dc.; 10 be had at the principal Music Warchouses and Libraries, and of Heinrich Werner, 17, Rathbone Place, Oxford Street.

ST. MARTIN'S HALL.—Mr. ALFRED MELLON respectfully announces that the last ORCHESTRAL UNION CONCERT this season will take place at the above Hall on FRIDAY EVENING, July 6. Vocalists: Mdlle. Emilie Krail. Miss Dolby, and Signor Bianchi. Soloists: M. Alexander Billet, Mr. F. Edward Bache, M. Sainton, and Bottesini. Conductor, Mr. Alfred Mellon.—Stalls, 7a; Reserved Scats, 5a; Gallerics, 2a &c.; Area, 1a; to be had at all the Music-shops, and of Mr. Mellon, 134, Long Aere.

CONCERTS OF THE WEEK .- "A supplement" would be required by the Athenaum were the critic mathematically to suit his paragraphs, as regards space, to the "bill of fare" offered by Mr. Benedict yesterday week. Foreigners keep such programmes in albums as curiosities; home lovers of entertainment look back to them as registering a hard day's pleasure,—but that the public still recognizes their profusion, might be seen at Covent Garden Theatre, which possibly was never more crowded.—Our record must confine itself to Mr. Benedict's own compositions. A sprakling A day are and Road constant and Roa registering a hard day's pleasure,—but that the public still recognizes their profusion, might be seen at Covent Garden Theatre, which possibly contra-basso, who appeared, have been again and was never more crowded.—Our record must confine itself to Mr. Benedict's own compositions. A sparkling Andante and Rondeau, played by himself, is a welcome addition to our brilliant concert music. His two three-part songs for female voices are very fresh and pleasing; and they were executed to perfection by Mesdames Novello

Architecture seems likely to remain for ever in a swamped state in New Zealand, as, to avoid earthquakes, houses there are in future to be built of only one story.

Mr. Arkwright, who purchased the old Town Hall at Leominster, intending to re-erect it near his own seat at Hampton Court, has presented it as a museum and reading-room to the people of the town.

A valuable collection of sixty modern pictures, the property of Messrs. Lloyd, of Ludgate Hill, who had purchased them for engraving, have been sold by Messrs. Foster. The most conspicuous among them were two pyrotechnic pictures, in By thinning the score—as gardeners thin a bunch of grapes—a concert-overture of the first class might of grapes—a concert-overture of the first class might be produced. At present, we recollect in it nothing so effective as the opening to Mr. Benedict's 'Fest-Overture,' or as his entire Prelude to the 'Minne-singer,'—the last so graceful and individual a com-position that it should long ere this have been given at a Philharmonic Concert.

Holding the views that we hold respecting novelty, we must thank that clever young violinist, Herr Deichmann, for commencing his concert with a pianoforte Quartett by a composer little known in England, Herr Kufferath. But we cannot get beyond the praise due to good intentions, since the work can only be listened to experimentally, the work can only be listened to experimentally,—seeming to us both lame and tame as music; busy without spirit, elaborate without effect. Something more promising was the first appearance of a young Viennese gentleman, who sings as Signor Bianchi, and who possesses as powerful and legitimate a bass voice as has often been heard. If, besides an Italian name, this aspirant will adopt the Italian methods which have trained the great singers he may prove an acquisition to cur the singers, he may prove an acquisition to our theatres and concert-rooms of no common value.

atres and concert-rooms of no common value.

On Monday evening the Society of Female Musicians held its annual concert. The programme gave proof-that disregard for "advice unasked" is not—as misogynists have declared—a necessary attribute of "the sex." Or was it coincidence only, not compliance, that led to the selection, as a feature of the evening's entertainment, of some "numbers" from the Oratorio of Mrs. Mouneey Bartholomew, a measure advised in this journal?

The programme of M. Halle's School Bisselecture.

Bartholomew, a measure advised in this journal?

The programme of M. Halle's Second Pianoforte
Recital speaks for itself, and him, as follows:—

"Sonata in D, Op. 10, No. 3, Beethoven; Adagio in E,
and Finale Scherzo in A flat, from Op. 71, Dussek; Rondo
Andante in A minor, Mozart; Grand Sonata in E flat, Op.
81, Beethoven; Serenade in C sharp minor, Op. 56, Heller;
Lided Ohne Worte, Mendelssohn; Berceuse in D flat, Op.
57, and Mazurkas, Chopin."

To many of the audicence the reducional feath

To many of the audience, the adagio and finale from Dussek's charming Sonata were "as good as new." To those already acquainted with them, they were infinitely better than the novelties without novelty which are now so cruelly inflicted on the public. Something, however, which is new in date, as well as in style and in idea, is M. Heller's Serenade; a movement of rare beauty—fantastic, but not far-fetched—delicately imagined, and firmly knit. A time must surely come for this music by M. Heller to be as generally relished as the music of Chopin is now; but are we to wait till the reputation of the most individual living writer for his instrument is a matter of posthumous fame? These "Recitals" bid fair already to become some of the most popular chamber entertainments in London. We have certainly never had among us such a consummate pianist (not a composer) as M. Halle; whose style seems to ripen, deepen, and refine itself year by year.

Mr. Ella's Sixth Musical Union was what he calls "the Director's Matinée"; otherwise, a meeting more laid out "ad captandum" than the other seven of the series, and in which the instrumental selections are interspersed with vocal music.

ago. The accompanist was Signor Fiori, a newcomer, whom we expressly notice as something superior to the usual run of Italian new-comers professing to accompany. Too many such Signori (who even arrive at employment and position among foolish persons of quality) are given to playing wrong chords, and to leaving out all such passages as are difficult to their ignorance. Signor Fiori is apparently both a good pianist and a good

musician,—and as such deserves welcome.

On Wednesday evening, Mr. Hullah gave the last of his eight Choral Concerts at St. Martin's Hall. This time the selection consisted of music unaccompanied by the orchestra, including specimens by Croce, Mendelssohn, a new serens Mrs. Mounsey Bartholomew, one of Sir H. Bishop's glees, and other morceaux. These entertainments have now taken a firm root in London, and deservedly, -as fulfilling a separate function, and collecting a separate public of their own. Music so good on terms so easy would have been held by our fathers as among the impossibilities .- On Wednesday evening, too, a chamber-concert was given by M. Paque, a gentleman who is rising into repute as a steady and agreeable violoncellist.

ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA. - In fulfilment of our resolution to pass over the inevitable ravages wrought by Time on great artists, we shall only notice a point or two, here and there, in the late performances given at the Royal Italian Opera to audiences more crowded than any assembled there in years when there were no war-no domestic anxiety—no double income tax. The representa-tions of 'Norma,' give us occasion to speak of Mdlle. Marai—those of 'Lucrezia Borgia,' to commend Madame Nantier Didiée—for the services rendered by them in secondary parts. Covent Garden has never in this respect been so well served as now by these ladies. Each of the two, moreover, seems to make progress.— 'Il Barbiere,' as given on Thursday week, made it evident that neither allowance nor silence is needed on behalf of Signor Mario, on his good nights. He sang and played Almaviva to perfection, excited, it would seem, by the stupid tyrannies of Signor Lablache (Dr. Bartolo), and by the brilliancy and humour of Madame Viardot's Rosina. The last is new to London. Perhaps the Lady's cadenzas in 'Una voce' are over-exquisite; but as a display of science, charm, and vocal finish, her singing of the part, as a whole, cannot be exceeded; while her acting is as quiet and complete in its comedy as if she were only a quiet actress, unable to play Valentine, Rachel, Fides, the gipsy Azucena, and the peasant Zerlina .- Such variety of power is a quality perversely undervalued by the average playgoer. An impression made by many impressions, is not so readily prized as the repetition of a few looks and gestures-of a smile or of a sneer-or of a c above, or of a c below, the line.—But, on opposite grounds of adjusting reputations, Mdlle. Mars was, to our thinking, a higher artist than Madame Rachel; and Madame Viardot stands in our record above all her operatic compeers and most of her predecessors. Formes was the Basilio of the cast; -as usual, he had disdained to learn his recitatives. Our public is much-enduring; but we hope, for the sake of M. Meyerbeer, that the German basso will show more respect for his public while preparing 'L'Étoile, since there a few dozen wrong notes more or less, and a few entrances missed, will be of consequence. -M. Meyerbeer has arrived in London.

ADELPHI.—Mr. Tom Taylor is a daring play-wright, and has frequently astonished us by the painful elaboration of his pieces. On Wednesday, however, he excelled himself. 'Helping Hands is a drama in two acts, which occupied three hours in the performance, and is considerably longer than an ordinary five-act play. The argument is a trifle—the loss of an old fiddle to an old blind fiddler. The first act drops on his despair, and the second on his exultation at the recovery of his beloved "Straduarius." The intervals between these points are, in great part, devoted to the illustration of the musical sentiment in one Lorentz

Hartmann (Mr. Webster). Fallen into poverty, he is supported by his daughter Margaret (Madame Celeste), who copies music unknown to him. other incidents are not unlike those of sieur Jacques'; but the interest excited is of a sterner kind. Mr. Taylor has, in fact, aimed at the dignity of an Art-drama. He is much indebted to the excellent and persevering acting of Mr. Webster for his success. Art, however, has no exclusive defence against misfortune: and for the rent of their miserable garret, a distraint and an appraisement take place. one of the Shoe-black Brigade, personated by Mr. Keeley, having saved 101., is enabled to become the purchaser of the inventoried articles, and thus gets possession of the "Straduarius, for which he compels the broker to give him 150l designing the money for the blind musician and his daughter. Nothing, however, can console the former for the loss of his incomparable violin. Mr. Taylor in these incidents has brought out into strong relief, not only the characters of the benevolent William Rufus, or Vinkin, or Shockey-formerly a thief, but now an industrious convertite from the Ragged School - and of the lodginghouse servant, 'Tilda (Mrs. Keeley), but also those of the Jew broker and his appraiser, Isaac Wolff and Lazarus Solomon (Mr. C. Selby and Mr. C. J. Smith), whose chuckling over their anticipated bargain was revoltingly characteristic. Indeed, all these persons are broadly painted; and the play is indebted for its extraordinary length to the prominence bestowed on such individual portraitures. By way of contrast to these, we have in the second act the more courtly delineations of Lord Quaverly (Mr. Garden), the Hon. Calverly Hauthois (Mr. Leigh Murray), and Mr. Merton (Mr. Parselle), a physician, in love with Margaret. The violin, the occasion of so much pathetic demonstration, has been sold at the advanced price of 250l., with a fantastic pedigree, by Wolff to his lordship, who indulges a mania for collecting fiddles. But our friend of the Shoe-black Brigade again steps in to defeat Wolff of his unjust gains; and the result is. that Merton obtains the coveted "Straduarius as the fee for having restored his lordship's child to health, and makes glad old Hartmann by restoring it to his possession. With that and the 150l. for taking father and daughter to Italy, both have a fair chance of recovering their health, and the latter that of receiving a husband in the kindhearted physician. A drama so minutely elaand so ostentatiously prolonged, was pronounced slow by the majority of the audience, who were nevertheless interested by the truthfulness of the manners and the pathos of the suffering. Mr. Taylor has bestowed on it his most careful touches, and it may be commended as a masterpiece, both in construction and dialogue. On these two elements, indeed, the prosperity of the experiment depended; and bold as the reader must readily apprehend it was, there was not during the performance, notwithstanding an occasional sense of weariness, a moment of doubt as to the power of the author to carry on his well-purposed and thoroughly mastered development to a triumphant conclusion. The play stated to be entirely original, though we have some recollection of a story of Hoffman's that bears no slight resemblance to the main interest of its

EAST-END THEATRES. - We stated about a month ago that Mr. Charles Mathews was engaged at the CITY OF LONDON; and last week he, with some of his Lyceum pieces, duly appeared on the stage of that theatre. The salary reported to be paid to him is one hundred and fifty pounds a week .- At the STANDARD, to oppose him, Messrs. Wright and Paul Bedford have also been engaged, and likewise appeared on Monday week, in certain of the Adelphi pieces. What we anticipated has occurred. The fashionable trifles in which Mr. C. Mathews has too long delighted have proved unattractive; while the rival house has been crowded to the roof to witness the sturdier and less refined productions which Mr. Webster had provided for a healthier, if more homespun, taste. The different classes of pieces have now been brought to the

real test of popular appreciation, at a distance from the place of their first production, and apart from the individual vanity of their respective actors; and we have no longer any reason to wonder why the Lyceum has proved a failing and the Adelphi a successful theatre. The drama fitted for the British public must be of a robust sort ;whether classic, romantic, or domestic, the Anglo-Saxon understanding requires that it should be strong, full, healthy, teeming with life, interest, and story. Above all, it requires that it should be moral. It has no sympathy with the vaudeville of French intrigue; it respects the obligations of marriage, and despises frivolity, vice, and that false wit which would laugh virtue and earnest merit out of countenance.

MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC GOSSIP. - We have before us a copy of the Laws of the Philharmonic Society-forty-four in number. Two score of these are devoted to the election of directors, auditors, subscriptions, memberships,-to such formalities in short as, we are rash enough to fancy, might be provided for in half-a-dozen explicit sentences. The musical provisions contained in this code are three.—Law the First announces that—

"The primary object of the Philharmonic Society is the encouragement of the superior branches of music, by the establishment of a Concert, and combining therein the highest talents that can be procured, for the purpose of forming a full and complete orchestra."

The italics in the foregoing and following extracts are ours .- Laws the Sixteenth and Seventeenth run as follows :-

"The Directors, immediately after their election, shall be empowered to engage performers: they shall have the management of the Concerts of the Society, and of all matters appertaining thereto, subject to the control of a

The Directors shall have the power of making bye-laws for the regulation of their own meetings—a copy of which shall be delivered to the Secretary, and forthcoming at any general meeting

According to law the first, the combination of "the highest talents that can be procured" is promised for the Philharmonic orchestra. How has this promise been kept !—by Directors electing themselves and one another as performers, without reference to their conductor, long after they ought to have been superseded by more competent men; -by Directors appearing at their desks, not in person, but by deputy? How has the statute in law the sixteenth—of the Directors subjecting their management to the control of a general meeting-been observed? To point the moral of our inquiries, let us ask who controlled, or authenticated, or directly or indirectly sanctioned the engagement of Herr Wagner? At the time present, when this spirited measure has borne the fruits of all measures of party pique,—disappointment, loss, disgrace to those who promoted it,—we hear of one director shifting the responsibility to another-of Mr. A. declaring that it was all Mr. B.'s fault-of Mr. B. stoutly denying the charge, and assuring his congregation that so strange an appointment would never have happened, save from Mr. C.'s representations. But what boots such "fending and proving"? A simple adherence to the statutes of the Society would have enabled any one, whether acquiescent or affronted, to fix the responsibility on the parties really responsible. The whole order, or disorder, of the Philharmonic mismanagement is summed up in the elastic provision of law the seventeenth, which allows the Directors to make "bye-laws." It must have been by sanction of such statutes that the plurality of conductors was abolished,—that visitors were shut out from rehearsals, -that the singular evasions in recompense of solo performers have been carried through. Seeing that the laws of the Philharmonic Society contain no indications of any musical course or principle to be followed,—and that they amount to little more than a promise that some concerts of some music shall be somehow given, in accordance with some bye-laws, - we recom-mend all who are interested in stirring up "this slough of despond" to its depths, to demand the production of the Directors' book of bye-laws, as they are empowered to do by law seventeen; and with a view to future check and reconstruction, to ascertain how far the capricious courseindicating reform, then verging on ruin-which has amat the f num Roth just by a and signs him Cerv good year only cent of 8 sini's

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distinguished the proceedings of the Philharmonic | having been in rehearsal since October last (!), was distinguished the proceedings of the Thiluarmone Society, has been really a series of measures, decided by votes, recorded in minutes, proposed and carried at general meetings,—how far it has been a case, on the one side, of supineness, on the other of precedent violated without consistency or com-

mon sense to serve the purposes of self.

One of the most notorious musical illustrations One of the most notorious musical mustrations of England during the half century just ended—Robert Lindley, our great violonoellist—died so quietly a few days ago, that many musicians, both amateur and professional, might have overlooked the fact, save for the notice of the event in a late number of the Musical World. Lindley was born at Rotheram, in Yorkshire, according to the periodical just cited, in 1772 (the date of 1777 being given by a 'Biographical Dictionary of Musicians' before us). He was the son of a man who loved music, and could teach it a little. As a boy, he gave signs of great musical promise. These brought him under the notice of the Italian violoncellist Cervetto, who gave Lindley lessons, and to such good purpose, that in the year 1794 (only two years after Mozart's death—while Beethoven was only "in the bud"—upwards of a quarter of a only "in the bud"—upwards of a quarter of a century ere Weber was heard of—and a score of seasons, or thereabouts, before Signor Rossini's time) young Lindley took the desk of first violoncello in our Italian Opera orchestra,—and with it all the first appointments in our choice orchestras, and as solo player at festivals. It is not many years since he retired in favour of younger men from this long course of public service and public favour. The latter never failed him:—the sight of the comely old man winding his way into the orchestra was, in nine cases out of ten, signal for a hearty round of English applause and wel-come.—In some important respects Lindley's popu-larity was thoroughly merited. Though his exe-cution, it is true, was exceeded in his own day by that of such great foreign players as Merk and Romberg, and in ours entirely outshone by Signor Piatti,—Lindley drew from his strings a tone such as no other violoncellist whom we have ever heard, or heard of, commanded. Then, his style might not be up to the mark of our present musical requisitions,-for he was not a cultivated man, and flourished, too, during the worst period of English taste. Thus, he was comparatively heavy and uninteresting as a quartett player,—monotonously fond of frivolity and trick in his cadence and ornaments,—puerile and commonplace in the concoction of his solos. But, on the other hand, he was excellent-a tower of breadth and strength-in the cenent—a tower of breadth and strength—in the orchestra; capital in accompaniment,—and thoroughly versed in some of those old traditions (for instance, the support of recitatives) which demand from the instrumentalist a basis of sound musical knowledge, not always built on by showy soloplayers now-a-days. He had little to say, and that little was marred by an impediment in his speech. It seemed as if the brotherly companionship which existed betwixt himself and Dragonetti for so many years must have been a sympathy of strings and bow, rather than a verbal interchange of anecdote and opinion, -since betwixt the English violoncello's no-language and the Venetian contra-basso's cetto's no-language and the Venetian contra-baseo's every-language-in-one, their discourse was to listeners totally unintelligible. Let it be added, that Lindley delighted in his profession, and was conscientious accordingly,—never careless at rehearals, never slovenly at performances. In short, according to the measure of his capacity, his culture, and the bad times in which he was trained, he was a thorough and honest artist; and some tablet should somewhere or other record this much, for

the benefit of players and hearers to come.

The week before the Birmingham Festival, the meeting of the Three Choirs at Hereford is to take meeting of the Three Choirs at Hereford is to take place, commencing on Tuesday, the 21st of August. The principal artists engaged are Mesdames Novello and Grisi, Miss Dolby, and Mrs. Weiss; Signor Mario, Mr. Sims Reeves, and Mr. Weiss. Little Arthur Napoleon, too, is to play at Hereford, for which we are heartily sorry,—conceiving every appearance of the kind as another step towards the ruin of the gifted child.

Madame Castellay has arrived in London

Madame Castellan has arrived in London.

having been in rehearsal since October last (!), was produced at the *Grand Opéra* of Paris on the 13th. Should 'Les Vépres' keep the stage, we may be able to speak of it under guidance of our own ears and experience; but the "should" seems problematical, though we fully recognize the progressive improvement made, and making, by Signor Verdi, and though we perceive that the success of the first night is described as having been triumphant. Private information describes the libretto of this opera as weak, foolish, and ill-contrived, thouch it opera as weak, foolish, and ill-contrived, though it be by M. Scribe:—a re-arrangement of 'Le Duc d'Albe,' which was written for Donizetti to set while, so far as we can gather from facts recorded it does not seem as if any one act of the five was so complete as the last act of 'Il Trovatore.' The melodies, however, (it is fair to add) are said to be combined with care and charm,—the instru-mentation is praised as ingenious,—and the airs de ballet are commended for their grace and variety.

M. Thalberg's second theatrical work, 'Christina di Svezia,' has been produced at Vienna with every sign of approval; and (we are informed by Mr. Ella's Musical Record) the composer has passed through London on his way to Rio Janeiro, where he is engaged for some concerts. Such a move seems to us an odd sequel to a real triumph. But what is success, after all? In some collection of theatrical anecdotes we remember the whimsical commentary aneototes we remember the winnist commentary of Kenney on the manager who declared himself as "really proud of his pit," on a night when his pit was counted by Kenney to contain some five-and-twenty persons.—Again, we find the New York Musical Gazette, for the benefit of innocent Amemastea of district, for the benefit of inflocent America, chronicling the crowds and the increasing enthusiasm in London which attend on the evolutions of Herr Wagner's bâton! We heard of like triumphs, too, the other day, when we were at Düsseldorf. Pleasantry apart, statements like these are very sad, or very silly—or both.

We have been invited, by one in whose judgment we place reliance, to believe in the good accounts which reach us of Mdlle. Tietjens, a young German soprano, who is described as promising us a real artist and vocalist. She is now, we perceive, singing at the Opera of Berlin.

It appears that we were misinformed regarding the abandonment of the Paris speculation in Engthe abandonment of the Paris speculation in Eng-lish theatricals,—since we now perceive that, yesterday week, 'Macbeth' was played in the Théatre Ventadour, with Mr. and Mrs. Wallack as the Thane of Fife and the Lady. The tragedy seems to have been found too long; and the inter-polated witch-music failed to please, because, say the journals, it was "out of tune."

MISCELLANEA

Attempt to sound Niugara Falls.-The gentleman who has been trying the experiment of sounding the river below Niagara Falls, writes as follows:—"Another attempt was made with a similar iron of about 40 lb. weight, attached to similar iron of about 40 lb. weight, attached to a No. 11 wire, all freely suspended, so as not to impede the fall of the weight. I then let the weight fall from the bridge, a height of 225 feet. It struck the surface fairly, with the point down— must have sunk to some depth, but was not longer out of sight than about one second, when it made its appearance again on the surface, about 100 feet down the stream, and skipped along like a chip, until it was checked by the wire. We then commenced hauling in slowly, which made the iron bounce like a ball, when a cake of ice struck it, and ended the sport. I am satisfied that no metal has sufficient specific gravity to pierce that current, even with a momentum acquired by a fall of 225 feet. The velocity of the iron when striking must have been equal to 124 feet per second; and, consequently, its momentum near 5,000 lb. Its surface opposed to the current was about 50 superficial inches. This will give an idea of the strength of that current, and at the same time hint at the Titan forces that have been at work to scoop out the bed of the Niagara river." its appearance again on the surface, about 100 feet the bed of the Niagara river."

Madame Castellan has arrived in London.

Les Vépres Siciliennes,' by Signor Verdi, after received.

To Correspondents.—C. R.—E. C.—V. B.—H. S. E.—

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